

THE DENTAL CARE SERIES

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All Pets Dental Clinic



Feline Stomatitis

Cats can also be affected by inflammation of the entire mouth called stomatitis or lymphocytic plasmacytic syndrome (LPS). An immune related cause is suspected due to the large amount of plasma cells encountered on microscopic examination of the inflamed tissues. Many cats affected by (LPS) will be unable to eat, develop weight loss, and excess salivation. Oral examination often reveals a cobble stone-like redness in the throat area and severe inflammation where the tooth and gums meet. The premolar and molar areas are usually affected more than the canines and incisors. Intraoral x-rays often reveal moderate to severe periodontal disease. In addition to generalized inflammation, all stages of feline oral resorptive lesions may be present.

In the past, therapy options for feline stomatitis included thorough teeth cleaning and polishing, fluoride, corticosteroids, gold therapy, antibiotics, lasers and strict daily brushing. In most cases cats were only temporarily helped with these therapies.

Newer treatment options include general cleaning, polishing, application of fluoride, and extraction of those teeth affected by FORLs or severe periodontal disease. In addition, a home care program is begun. The client is instructed how to brush their cat's teeth daily followed by irrigation with .2% chlorhexidine. If the initial treatment does not succeed within 2 months, then all remaining teeth are removed behind the canines. Although somewhat radical, in most cases this will provide long term success.

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