

ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES COMMONLY PERFORMED FOR CATS

(Conditions that often need to be corrected after 12-step comprehensive cleaning to prevent pain & future problems)

1. Chipped teeth

Cat's teeth (especially uppers) are all pointed in shape. They can get chips or fractures from chewing on hard objects or trauma (like missing a turn and a chair leg gets in their way!). Even a minor incident can remove protective enamel and cause irreparable damage.



Chipped #204



Radiograph of
chipped #204

- Small chips can be painful.
- Cats rarely show pain.
- Sealants can prevent pain.
- Root canal or extraction may be needed.

Treatment for healthy chipped teeth: Dental radiographs will identify if the root is damaged. Sealants are applied to desensitize the tooth and prevent infections. Infections can cause painful apical abscesses, potential loss of tooth and/or oral surgery.

2. Missing teeth

Cats should have 32 teeth (12 incisors, 4 canines, 6 molars and 10 premolars). If any of these teeth are missing in your cat's mouth, there is a very high chance that resorption has occurred and the tooth has broken off. This most commonly occurs in the lower premolars just behind the lower canine teeth.



Missing #407



Radiograph of "nub"
resorption

3. Resorptive Lesions



Resorptive Lesion
#307



Resorptive Lesion
#307

- 50% of cats over 5 years old have resorptive lesions.
- Very painful.
- Treatment is extraction or crown amputation.

4. DEEP POCKETS AROUND TEETH = PERIODONTITIS

In the later stages of periodontal disease (grade 3 and 4) pets commonly have bone loss around the tooth.



Periodontal Pocket
#208



Periodontal Pocket
and resorption #208

- Can be prevented.
- Reddened gums and bad breath will be evident.
- Painful.