

Autumn Newsletter 2018

Worming Puppies and why it's important!

Sometimes in the excitement of purchasing a new family member a few important items are overlooked and one of those is the need for worming in the early stages of development for our furry little friends.

- If the mother has worms, the litter becomes infected through the uterus and milk. Puppies should be wormed at 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 weeks of age to catch these worms as they mature, and then every three months for life with an all-wormer. Pregnant and nursing mothers should also be treated during mating, before the birth of their puppies, and then every three months.

- Worming treatments are easy and effective to use, but it is important to read the label to protect your puppy against all types of worms. For heavy worm infestations in puppies worming should be repeated every 2 weeks for 3 doses. If you're having problems administering your puppy's treatment, ask your veterinarian for a demonstration during your next vet consult.

- **Worm warning signs**

- Weakness and listlessness
- Pale gums
- Diarrhoea or vomiting
- Weight loss despite a good appetite
- Abnormally swollen stomach

- **Types of worms**

- **Roundworm** can be contracted through infected poo or dirt. This thin, spaghetti-like parasite is around 12cm long and can cause a potbellied appearance. Symptoms may include weight loss, weakness, vomiting, diarrhoea or mucus in the stool, and stunted growth.

- **Hookworm** is one of the most dangerous of all intestinal parasites. It can be transmitted from mothers to puppies before birth or through suckling. You may be able to spot it by observing the level of your puppy's lethargy, and looking out for symptoms that include anaemia, poor appetite and black tarlike stools that contain digested blood.

- **Tapeworm** can infect a puppy when they have a flea burden or eat raw offal. There are no obvious symptoms, but small, rice-like segments can be found around their anus or in their stool.

- **Whipworm** will find its way to your puppy's digestive tract, causing large bowel inflammation. You may notice mucus and blood in the stools and weight loss or diarrhoea.

- **Heartworm** can enter a puppy through the bite of a mosquito. It causes heart and lung damage, coughing, lethargy and fatigue, and can be fatal. Heartworm can be detected through a blood test and they are simple to prevent. Ask our friendly Vet Nurses next time you visit for further information.

It is important to treat your puppy during the early stages of their life and maintain this treatment into their adult years so we have products available for both puppies and adult dogs. If you have any concerns about treating your furry family member for parasites, contact us on 4061 2590.



PRODUCT REVIEW

OraVet Dental Hygiene Chews

Here at Coral Coast Veterinary Services we believe that regular dental checks and cleanings performed by your vet are an essential part of oral health care for your dog.

However, without daily home care, the plaque, tartar and bad breath can soon return. OraVet Chews have been shown to extend the benefit of veterinary dental cleanings by reducing plaque and tartar build up and bad breath.

Dental disease is a common problem in dogs. It starts with bacteria attaching to the teeth forming plaque. Plaque can then harden, forming tartar. Bacteria can also lead to bad breath.

The dual-action approach of OraVet Chews doesn't just clean teeth and freshen breath. It creates a barrier to protect against plaque, calculus, and bad breath.

Dogs come in different sizes and so do **OraVet** Dental Hygiene Chews. Which size is right for your best friend?

Select your dog's weight to find the right size. Our friendly Veterinary Nurses are more than happy to assist you in finding the right one for you and your pet. For dogs 6 months of age and older.

- For dogs up to 4.5kg
- For dogs 4.5 - 11kg
- For dogs 11 - 23kg
- For dogs 23kg and over



How to examine your pet's teeth and gums in 4 easy steps!

An important part of a dental care program for your pet is regular examinations at home. Just a few minutes on a regular basis could help keep your pet pain-free and also catch any signs of dental disease before it becomes a problem.

An at home dental examination should only take 1-2 minutes, and should be done at least once a month.

To start with, make sure your pet is comfortable with you handling his/her face and with placing your fingers around and in their mouth. For some pets, this may take a little patience and time and is why it's best to start routine dental examinations from a young age.

Choose a well lit area in the house or backyard. Raise your pet off the ground if possible to give you an ideal view point for the examination.

Step 1 - Examine your pet's face for any unusual swelling.

Before opening your pet's mouth, examine their face for any unusual swelling.

Step 2 - Smell your pet's breath.

If a strong or unusual odour is detected, then attention may be required.

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Step 3 - Examine your pet's mouth

Gently pull the lips back to expose the front of your pet's teeth and gums as shown in the picture below and look for any signs listed below:-

- Discoloured teeth, plaque and tartar (yellow-brown crust of tartar around the gumline)
- Loose teeth
- Receding gums
- Red gums
- Bleeding
- Pain if you touch the gums or mouth

Gently pull back the lips on the side of your pet's teeth, ensuring you check to the back of the gums as shown here.

Check both sides of the mouth for the signs above.



Step 4 - Act on any signs of disease

If you notice any of the signs mentioned above your pet should see their veterinarian for a complete dental check-up. Left untreated, bacteria from gum disease can transfer from the mouth to other areas of the body and cause infections and organ disorders. Also, just like in humans, dental problems can cause excruciating pain and should never be left without treatment.

Since we feel dentals are an important part in your pet's health care we have our Veterinary Nurses conducting complimentary dental checks until July 31st 2018. These dental checks will be conducted in 4 easy steps as listed above. Any findings can be discussed with your chosen Veterinarian if further dental work is required.

Ask our friendly Vet Nurses about Oravet next time you visit or give them a call on 4061 2590 to discuss your pet's dental care needs today!



To book your complimentary dental check please phone 4061 2590 to make an appointment.



We love fun facts here at C CVS and we have some for you!

1. Cats don't typically meow at each other – that's a communication tool reserved for their humans.
2. Goldfish have a reputation as short lived creatures, but given proper care, they can live as long as 30 years in captivity.
3. You can lower your blood pressure just by petting your pet.
4. Dogs have wet noses because it helps to absorb scent chemicals.

Hope you enjoyed our Autumn Newsletter.

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