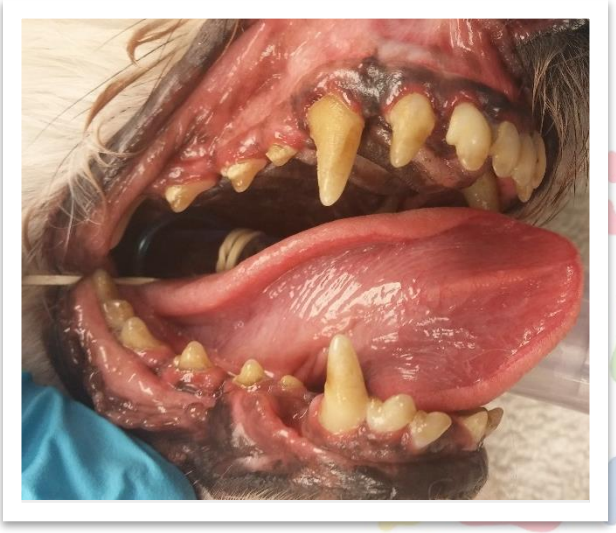
Periodontal Disease



Periodontal disease is the number one medical problem in dogs and cats, and it is entirely preventable. It is an inflammatory disease affecting the hard tissues (bone and cementum) and soft tissues (gingiva and periodontal ligament) that support and anchor the teeth.

Oral bacteria, plaque and calculus lead to inflammation causing periodontal disease. This process results in chronic pain and infection, halitosis (bad breath), and tooth loss.

The presence of periodontal disease can cause systemic problems that will affect your pet's overall health. Liver, kidney, and heart disease can develop as the result of both chronic oral inflammation and as bacteria in the mouth spread throughout the body.

Over and over again, more pet owners are realizing too late the importance of good oral health for their pets. The dental and oral surgery specialists at AERC recommend regular dental care with a veterinarian. This includes an annual oral examination, annual anesthetized dental cleaning with radiographs along with daily home care to prevent periodontal disease. We work with each patient and client to develop a home care plan that works for you.