

Comparison of Anesthetic Dental cleanings to Non-Anesthetic Dental cleanings

Anesthetic	Non-Anesthetic
General anesthesia with inhalant gas, injectable anesthetics, and local anesthetics.	No anesthetics used.
Oral examination performed by a veterinarian to assess for periodontal disease and teeth abnormalities.	No examination performed by a license veterinarian.
Full mouth radiographs and evaluated by a veterinarian to assess the tooth structures underlying the gums for disease.	No radiographs performed.
Removal of tartar with an ultrasonic scaler above and below the gum, also cleaning of the insides of teeth. Performed by a trained and licensed individual.	Removal of tartar with a hand scaler from the outer crown, with no tartar removal below the gum or on the inside of the tooth. Typically performed by an individual without proper training or license.
Polishing of teeth after cleaning to remove micro-etches created in the crown from the tartar and cleaning to prevent re-attachment of the tartar rapidly.	No polishing performed after the cleaning, allowing for faster re-attachment of the tartar to the tooth.
Periodontal exam by a veterinarian of the entire tooth to assess for detachment of the periodontal ligaments and treatment of pockets with antibiotic gel to stimulate re-attachment of the ligament.	No periodontal exam is performed to assess for periodontal disease, or treatment of periodontal ligament detachment from the tooth. Treatment of periodontal disease and assessment for periodontal disease can only be performed by licensed veterinarians.
Blood work to assess health prior to anesthesia and ensure not seeing systemic effects to other organs from the dental disease.	No blood work is performed to assess for systemic disease secondary to dental disease.
Endotracheal tube placed into the trachea to protect the airway from aspiration of dental debri.	Endotracheal tubes cannot be used on a pet that is awake.
Extraction of teeth by a veterinarian that are mobile, with cavities present, fractures, or have severe periodontal disease	Extractions cannot be performed in an awake pet, and can only be performed by licensed veterinarians in Washington State.
Sterile dental equipment is used for each pet.	Non-sterile equipment is used.
Emergency medical plan in place if an unforeseen medical issue occurs during the procedure.	No medical emergency plan if there is an unforeseen medical issue during the procedure
Veterinarian present to prescribe antibiotics and pain medication if indicated after medical examination.	No veterinarian present to prescribe antibiotics if indicated, and no medical examination performed by a veterinarian.