

# DOGS' TEETH DOUBLE AS THEIR HANDS...



## ... now there is a NEW way to help protect dogs' teeth

Dogs' teeth aren't just for eating; they also act as their hands. Dogs use their teeth as often as we use our hands. Chewing, playing, fetching, dragging, carrying, eating ...all the things they love doing.

Periodontal disease is a painful and progressive inflammatory condition involving bacteria attacking the gums, ligament and bony tissues which surround and support the teeth.

Some dogs are more at risk of suffering from periodontal disease - small breeds, brachycephalic breeds, dogs fed a soft food diet and aging dogs.

Periodontal disease starts with bacteria which live in your dog's mouth. These bacteria multiply when food debris and saliva are allowed to build up on teeth, forming plaque. Plaque hardens to form calculus (tartar). Bacteria in the calculus cause deepening pockets to form beneath the gum line. These pockets eventually destroy the tissues that hold the teeth in place.



### Healthy mouth:

- White teeth
- Firm pink gums

### Progression over time:

- Yellow-brown crust forms on teeth
- Bad breath noticeable



### Severe periodontal disease:

- Plaque & calculus on teeth
- Red & receding gums

The good news is that the early stage of periodontal disease, gingivitis, is reversible. Left untreated however, gingivitis progresses to irreversible periodontitis (severe periodontal disease affecting the bone) and becomes the leading cause of early tooth loss.

As with people, no single measure on its own is completely effective in treating or preventing periodontal disease in dogs.

Now there is a NEW vaccine, PERIOVAC, to help prevent the damage caused by severe periodontal disease.

To provide effective protection for your dog's teeth, it is essential that you provide them with a combination of regular home and veterinary care.

This can include:

- Vaccination with PERIOVAC
- Professional Dental Cleaning (to remove plaque and calculus)
- Dental care diets (e.g. Eukanuba with DentaDefense)
- Chew toys
- Regular tooth brushing

**PERIOVAC®**

\*Periovac is a vaccine for healthy dogs 8 weeks of age and older, as an aid in preventing periodontal disease, as represented by a reduction in bone changes associated with *Porphyromonas denticanis*, *P. gulae*, and *P. salivosa*. Periovac is registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997, No A9675 (PAR) Class 1. Registered trademark of Biocor Animal Health Inc, a subsidiary of Pfizer Inc