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AJ & JL Williams Pty Ltd T/A

# WANGARATTA VETERINARY CLINIC

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*Friendly service and professional care for all.*

## **Dental preventative options**

*These are all proven to slow the development of tartar on teeth.*

- **Tooth brushing:**

Tooth brushing is done using a finger toothbrush or baby tooth brush and dog/cat toothpaste. Ideally it is done daily and helps to mechanically keep the teeth clean.

- **Dental dry food:**

Compared with normal dry food these biscuits don't just shatter, instead they work to mechanically clean the teeth as they move up and down.

These are completely balanced so you can feed as their sole diet or for smaller pets you may get away with feeding a handful a day to supplement their food.

- **Dental chews: – give daily**

Oravet chews work to mechanically clean the teeth as they chew and also have an active ingredient which stops plaque and bacteria binding to the teeth.

Greenies for cats mechanically clean their teeth as they enjoy the treat.

- **Water additives:**

Water additives act to stop plaque sticking to the teeth and provide protection every time they drink.

*All preventatives come with a money back guarantee for palatability*

- **Complimentary dental check program**

Dental checks allow us to closely monitor the state of the teeth and intervene should any dental disease be apparent. We will recommend a dental check at least every 6 months.

### **Checklist**

- Does your pet drink from one main water source?  
Yes → water additives would be suitable  
No → water additives will not be the best option for your pet
- Will your pet let you brush their teeth every day?  
Yes → brushing is the best prevention if it fits with your lifestyle  
No → avoid brushing so there is no unnecessary stress on you or your pet
- Will your pet chew dental treats?  
Yes → Oravet for dogs and Greenies for cats are not only a delicious treat for your pet but will help slow down progression of dental disease.  
No → consider another preventative
- Does your pet eat dry food?  
Yes → Dental dry foods as a sole or part of the diet help clean the teeth  
No → consider other preventatives

***If you are unable to do any of these preventative measures, that is OK, just plan on having a dental scale and polish every 6 -18 months to keep your pet's teeth clean and healthy.***