



#### Reasons Not to Use Anesthesia Free Pet Dental Cleanings for Your Dogs and Cats:

1. A thorough exam and cleaning cannot be done on a dog or cat that is awake.
2. Most oral disease happens below your pet's gum line and dental x-rays are the only way to identify painful problems such as fractured teeth, periodontal disease or other problems. Dental x-rays cannot be performed on an awake pet.
3. Cleaning and scaling below the gum line is important because it is where periodontal disease is most active. This cannot be done without anesthesia.
4. Anesthesia free dental cleanings require a pet to be restrained while having their teeth scraped, which is both stressful and likely painful for them.
5. Anesthesia allows us to properly care for your pet's teeth safely, adequately and without pain.
6. Anesthesia free dental scaling without proper polishing leaves a surface on the pet's teeth that promotes faster growth of the bacteria that causes periodontal disease.
7. Anesthesia free dental cleanings give pet owners a false sense of security. Unfortunately, just because their pet's teeth appear cleaner does not mean they are free from oral disease.
8. There are significantly increasing numbers of pets who, after a number of years of anesthesia free dental cleanings, have developed severe periodontal disease resulting in multiple extractions or the need to have extensive dental treatments.
9. Periodontal disease is the most common clinical condition occurring in dogs and cats. Unfortunately there are typically no visible signs until it has progressed too far to be able to treat and save teeth. Anesthesia free dental cleanings do not begin to even identify, let alone address periodontal disease.
10. The cost of anesthesia free dental cleanings may seem less. However, they put a pet owner at great risk for far more extensive costs in the future to treat problems that have been left untreated for a number of years.