Interesting Cases in Dentistry for the General Practitioner

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Jasper, 6 mo. Old standard poodle

Linguoverted mandibular canine teeth
(used to be called base narrow mandibular canine teeth)

What are your recommendations for Jasper?

A.) Discuss a removable orthodontic device with the owners

B.) Recommend reducing the height of the crown (and vital pulp therapy)

C.) Recommend gingivectomy

D.) Extract the mandibular canine teeth (304, 404)
Would your patient and your owner be good candidates for ball therapy!?

Is there a place to move the mandibular canine that is comfortable?
Is the dog willing to play? Is the owner willing to encourage play 5-10 minutes 3 times a day?

Ball Therapy Coaching

- Goal is to create comfortable, functional occlusion
- There are good alternatives to ball therapy; these alternatives are a little more invasive (inclined plane, coronal extenders, crown reduction with vital pulp therapy)
- Ideal patient has a diastema wide enough to accommodate the mandibular canine tooth and no major jaw discrepancies. Also, the patient has to be willing to play with a ball!
- Ideal toy is smooth (non-abrasive), and sits just in between and a little behind the canine teeth.
- Treatment takes 2 weeks to 2 months.
What are your recommendations for Carmel?

A.) Discuss a removable orthodontic device with the owners

B.) Recommend reducing the height of the crown (and vital pulp therapy)

C.) Recommend gingivectomy

D.) Extract the mandibular canine teeth (304, 404)
Crown Reduction with Vital Pulp Therapy

- Avoids Surgical Extraction
- Maintains the tooth as a living, functional, comfortable tooth
- Good prognosis (92% success rate)
- $400-600
- Dental Radiograph in 6 months

Rocky, 7 yr Boston Terrier

What's the problem?
What is the recommendation in young dog with this problem?
A.) If a swelling develops or if the dog seems painful, we should see the dog back.
B.) Extract the tooth now because of concern for abscess formation.
C.) Extract the tooth now because of concern for dentigerous cyst formation.

Quick point of clarification...
• A dentigerous cyst forms from the enamel organ around the crown of an unerupted tooth.
• A radicular cyst forms around the root of an erupted tooth that typically has pathology.
Presenting Expression, TMJ Luxation

The mandibles are shifted towards the normal side.
What's wrong with Gideon?

A.) Stage 4 Periodontal disease of 410 and 411.
B.) Stage 4 Periodontal disease of 104.
C.) Mucosal erosion overlying 410, 411.
D.) Mucosal erosion overlying 104.
E.) A, C, D
F.) B, C, D

Gideon, 9 yr old MC Miniature Schauzer

Chronic Ulcerative Paradental Stomatitis (CUPS)

- Overblown response to chronic exposure to plaque
- Tooth extraction is not the first option for treatment except for those teeth affected with stage 3 and stage 4 periodontal disease
- Steroids risk osteomyelitis
- The mainstay of treatment is meticulous cleaning of the tooth surface through regular professional dental cleanings and daily tooth brushing.
- Distribution is mucosa in contact with teeth, especially canine and maxillary 4th premolar teeth.

Feline Chronic Gingivostomatitis (FCGS)

- Overblown response to chronic exposure to plaque
- The treatment option with the best success (6% failure) is partial or full mouth extraction.
- Steroid use in refractory cases may be helpful if occasional ‘flare ups’ respond.
- For many cat owners, tooth brushing is out of the question.
- Distribution is caudal buccal mucosa.
Treating CUPS

- Extract the teeth affected with stage 3 and stage 4 periodontal disease
- Ultrasonically scale and polish the teeth and consider a dental sealant to slow plaque accumulation
- HOME CARE is key
  - Daily tooth brushing (once your patient is comfortable enough to tolerate it)
  - Subantimicrobial Doxycycline 2 mg/kg per day
  - Niacinamide 500 mg ½-1 q8-12 hr
  - Professional cleanings under anesthesia every 6-12 months

What are Muffin’s problems?
A.) Pulp polyp
B.) Carious Lesion
C.) Endodontic disease
D.) All of the above
What is affecting this left maxillary canine tooth?
A.) Vertical bone loss (periodontal disease)
B.) Tooth resorption
C.) Neoplasia
D.) Extrusion
E.) A and D

Buccal Bone Expansion
Let’s do an operculectomy!

Feline pyogenic granuloma. Have you seen this in your practice??
A.) Yes!
B.) No!
Extraction or Odontoplasty

This 8 mo. old Maine Coon cat presents with a complaint of halitosis.

A.) Begin to ease the owner into the idea of partial or full mouth extractions
B.) Schedule a complete oral exam and professional cleaning as soon as possible

Notice in contrast how this cat has Feline Chronic Gingivostomatitis, and inflammation is most pronounced in the caudal buccal mucosa.

Treatment plan for Juvenile Stomatitis

- Early intervention with professional scaling and polishing under anesthesia and consider dental sealant
- Meticulous home care, daily tooth brushing and supplementary products like water additives (have your owner reference the VOHC website)
- If you can get these patients to 2 years of age without developing advanced periodontal disease, there can be resolution! *
- This is a different condition than Feline Chronic Gingivostomatitis (FCGS).
FURTHER READING