



# Pets & VETS

by Kate Pillsbury, DVM

## FELINE STOMATITIS

Feline dental disease is a fairly common and potentially major concern in the life of a cat. "Feline stomatitis" is the extremely painful inflammation of the mucosal tissues of the mouth. It is caused by the accumulation of plaque and is closely related to the oral disease gingivitis. Infected cats frequently paw at their mouth and leap away from the food dish while eating. Because it hurts to eat, they may experience personality changes and lose weight. It is crucial to work with your veterinarian to mitigate the intense pain through medication, to treat with antibiotics, and to further discuss other treatment options, including tooth extractions, laser surgery on the inflamed tissue, and long-acting injections.

**WE'LL BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY OF YOUR QUESTIONS CONCERNING YOUR PET'S ORAL HEALTH. WE CAN ALSO SHOW YOU HOW TO OPEN ITS MOUTH TO CHECK AND BRUSH ITS TEETH OR ADMINISTER PILLS. AT CODY PET HOSPITAL, OUR GOAL IS TO PROVIDE QUALITY SERVICES AS WELL AS SOUND OWNER EDUCATION. WHEN YOU NEED DENTAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL CARE FOR YOUR PET, WE WELCOME YOUR CALL AT (508) 384-5904. LOCATED AT 5 SHARON AVE, NORFOLK, WE'RE OPEN TWO EVENINGS A WEEK UNTIL 7PM, AND MOST SATURDAYS FROM 9 TO 1. EMERGENCY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE DAY AND NIGHT, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK.**

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P.S. It is important to be alert to a cat's changes in behavior and eating habits. In many situations, an ounce of prevention IS worth a pound of cure.