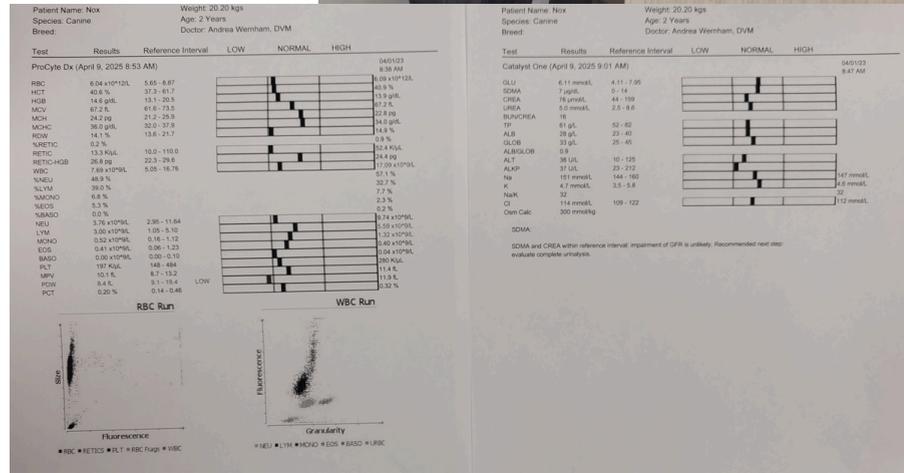


Nox's Dental Journey



Presqu'ile Animal Hospital



In the days leading up to Nox's dental procedure, she visits the hospital for pre-anesthetic bloodwork, a consultation with our team and goes home with medications to control nausea as well as an oral sedative for the day of surgery.

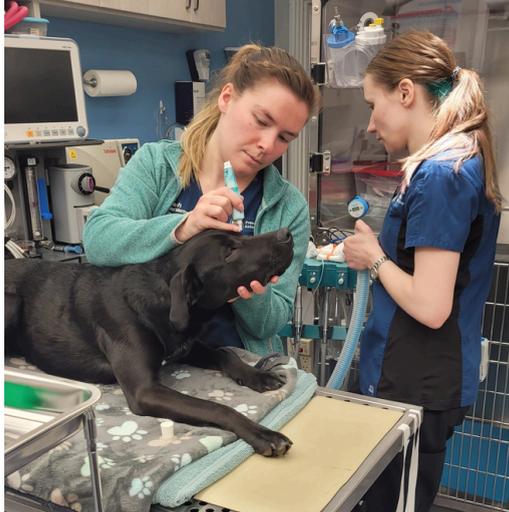
Dr. Andrea and a member of her dental team review Nox's medical records and they determine a safe anesthetic plan specific to her needs



On the day of surgery, Nox is admitted by one of our Veterinary Technicians and Dr. Andrea completes a pre-surgical examination.

At the same time, our dental team is reviewing their pre-anesthetic checklists, performing safety checks on our equipment and preparing the necessary surgical supplies.

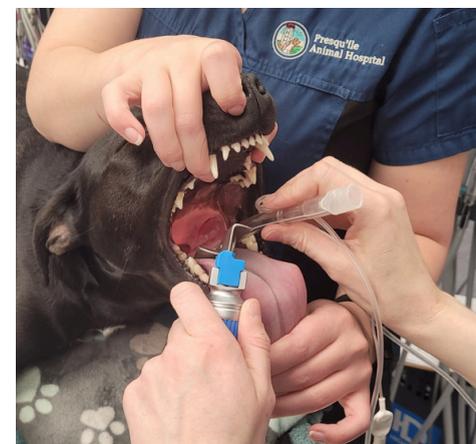
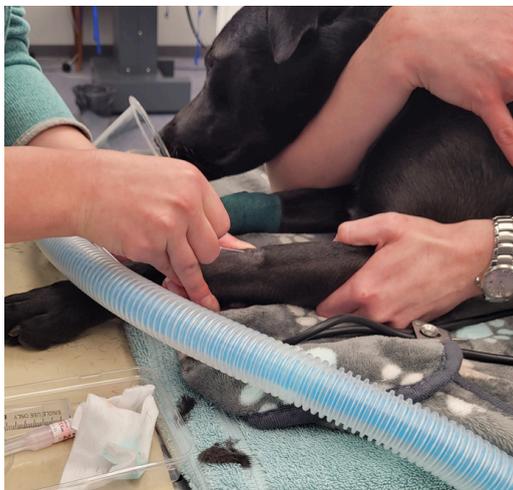
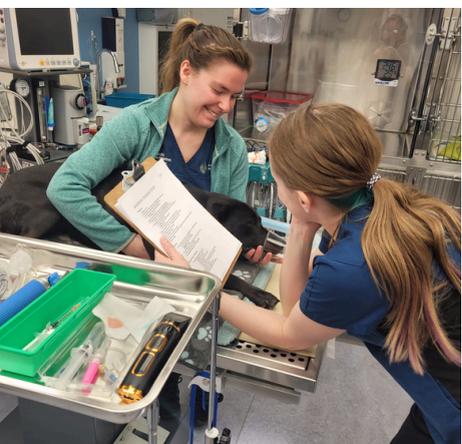


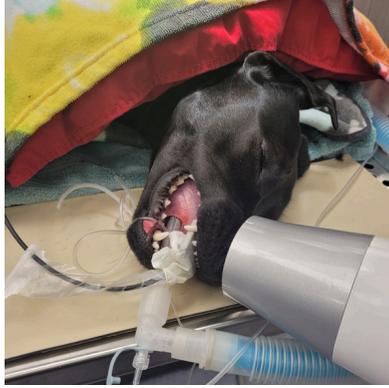


Our Veterinary Technicians administer a sedative by injection and when Nox is sleepy, she is brought out to the padded and heated table for eye lubrication to protect her eyes, and to receive oxygen by mask.

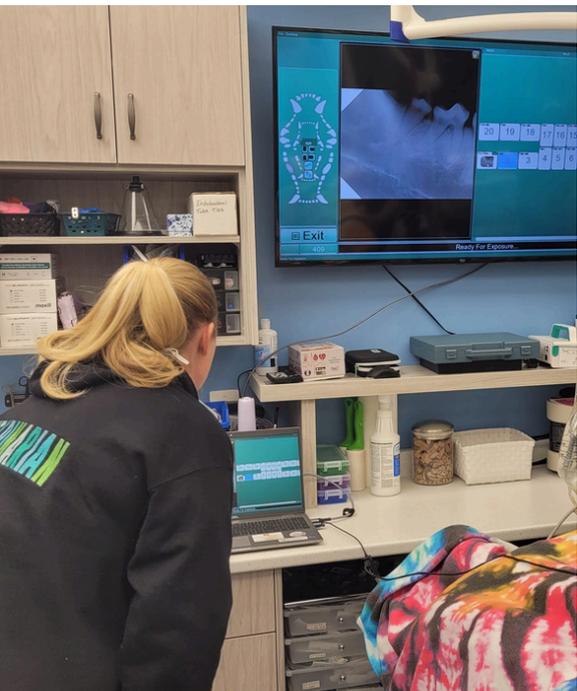
While Nox is breathing the oxygen, the final steps of the safety checklist are reviewed and an IV catheter is placed into her front leg.

An injection is given through the IV catheter so that Nox becomes unconscious and an endotracheal breathing tube is placed.





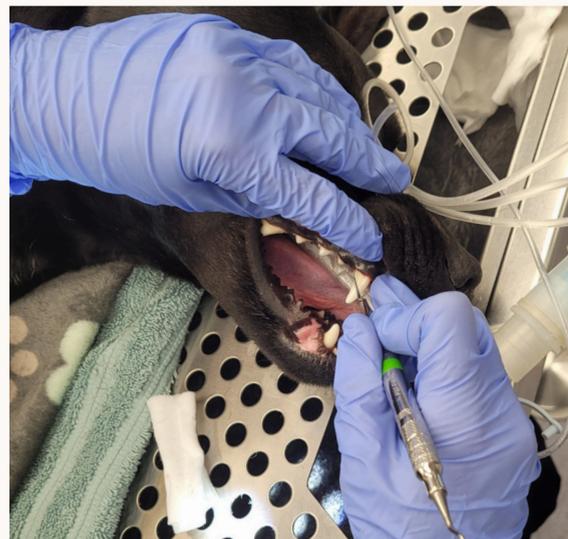
Nox is now asleep and she is breathing a mixture of oxygen and anesthetic gas. Our Veterinary Technicians place her on her back and connect the monitoring equipment for her heartrate, ECG, respirations, blood pressure, temperature, and blood oxygen levels. Socks are placed on her feet and she is covered with a warm air bed and towels to help her stay warm.



One team member takes dental radiographs of each tooth, while the other monitors her and maintains her anesthesia at a safe level.

Dr. Andrea examines Nox's oral cavity and assesses each tooth. She reviews the dental radiographs and begins creating a treatment plan for Nox.





Nox's mouth is rinsed with an antiseptic, which decreases the amount of bacteria released into the air and into her blood stream during cleaning.

One of our Veterinary Technicians cleans Nox's teeth, using an ultrasonic scaler on the visible enamel of each tooth, and hand scaling with a curette under the gumline.

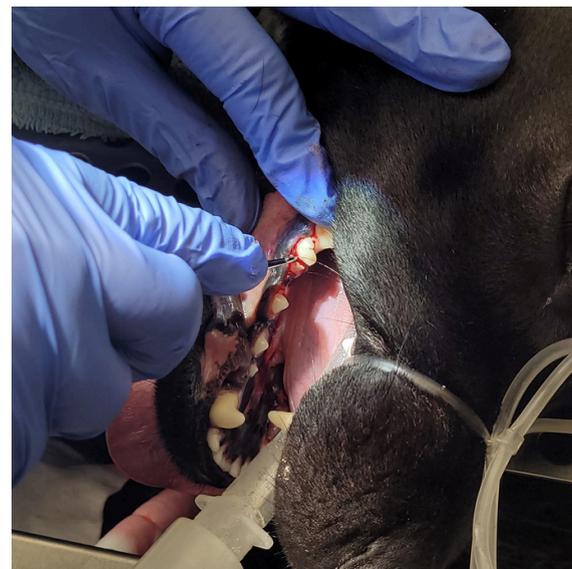
Dr. Andrea completes her plan, notifies Nox's owner of her assessment and completes routine checks on Nox while she is under anesthesia.



Nox requires the extraction of one of her teeth.

Prior to starting the extraction, local freezing is injected, which helps with pain control during and immediately following surgery.

Dr. Andrea then cuts a section of the gum tissue and separates it from the bone, creating a flap that will be used for closure after the tooth is removed. The tooth has multiple roots, so she cuts the tooth using a high-speed drill and sectioning bur. She then uses dental elevators to extract each section/root of the tooth individually.



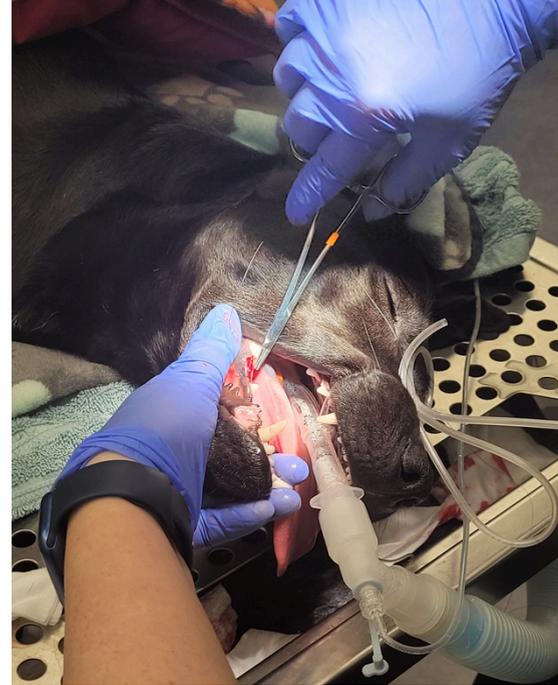


An x-ray is taken of the jaw to ensure all remnants of the tooth root have been removed successfully.

In the image to the left, the damaged tooth shows a broken tooth, with access to the pulp cavity due to the depth of the fracture.

In the image to the right, the tooth and its roots has been removed without additional damage to the surrounding bone. We do not have any pieces of the root left behind.

These x-rays demonstrate how much longer the tooth roots are in comparison to the portion of the tooth that is visible above the gumline.



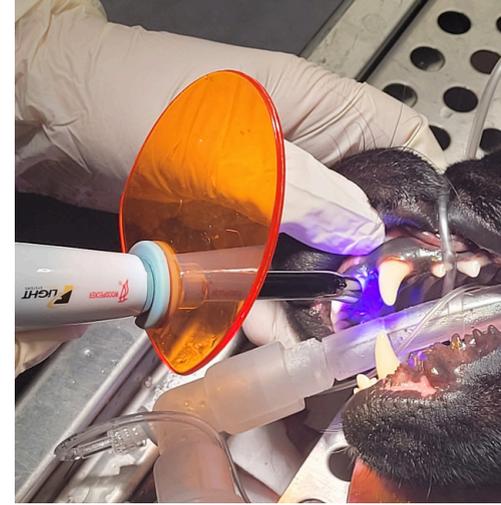
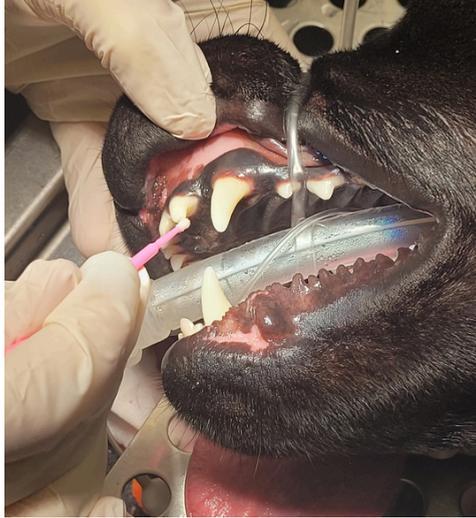
Throughout the extraction, one of our dental team members continually monitors Nox to ensure she is doing well under anesthesia.

Once it has been confirmed that the extraction is complete, Dr. Andrea smooths the jaw bone using a diamond bur and sutures the gingival flap over the socket.



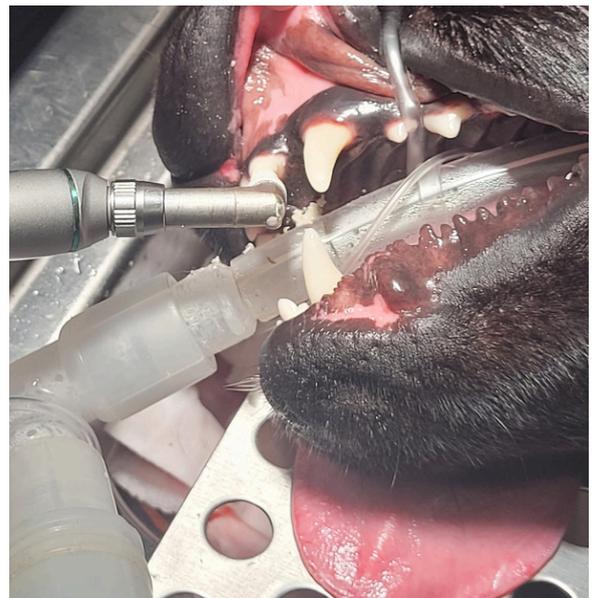
You can see in the image how long the roots of the teeth are. In some cases, tooth roots also have hooks, bulbs or can be fused together, which makes extraction more complex.





Nox has a defect on her incisor that would benefit from a bonded sealant.

Dr. Andrea applies the sealant in a 4-step process and then our Veterinary Technicians complete the cleaning by applying polish using a low-speed handpiece.





Nox is recovered by a Veterinary Technician.



Her endotracheal tube is removed once she is able to swallow on her own.

The tube was protecting her airway from fluid throughout the dental procedure.



She is monitored frequently during recovery and is offered food once she is sitting up.



Once Nox has eaten and is stable, her IV catheter is removed and she goes outside for a walk.



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COMPLETE ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT
Dr. Andrea Werbman

Date: 09/04/2025
Patient: Nox
Owner: Beaupre
Presenting Complaint: Fractured tooth (408); Dental Disease Grade 2

Intra-Oral Examination and Radiology Findings:

Nox has normal occlusion. Normal facial symmetry, and the mandibles palpate normal. The lips, tongue, lymph nodes, and tonsils are normal.

Mild generalized calculus, heavier along the maxillary molars, with mild generalize gingivitis and halitosis. Stage 2 periodontal disease on intra-oral dental radiographs and periodontal probing with > 25% bone loss. There is stage 3 periodontal disease at the mandibular incisors, with 30% bone loss centrally.

There is a complicated crown fracture of 408, which just enters the pulp canal. Enamel defects were found at 108, 203, 205, 206, 208, 406 and 411.

Treatment:
Surgical extraction of 408:
A caudal mandibular dental nerve block was placed with 0.4 mL bupivacaine. A gingival envelope flap was created and vestibular bone removed to access the roots. The tooth was sectioned into individual roots before elevating and extracting. A diamond bur was used to smooth all the bony surfaces. Post-extraction radiographs were taken. The gingiva was sutured tension-free with 4-0 monocryl. This suture material is absorbable, and the sutures will dissolve in 2 - 3 weeks.

Bonded sealant of 203
A bonded sealant was placed to protect the exposed dentin. This decreases sensitivity and pain, and reduces the risk of infection.
Bonded sealants will last for life, and do not need to be repeated unless there is further damage to the tooth.

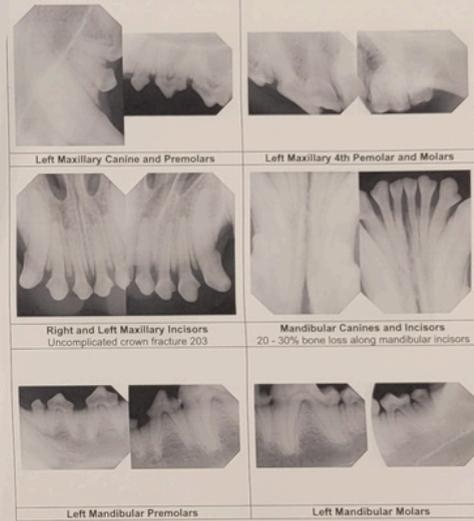
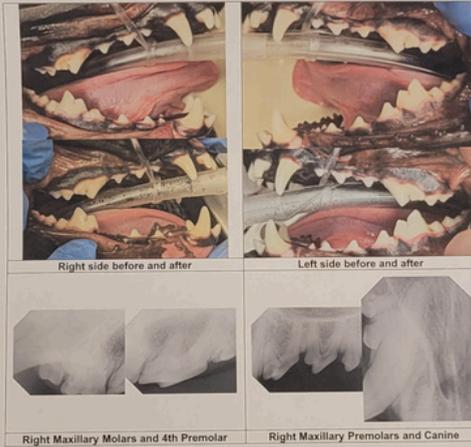
Scale and polish of the teeth.

Homecare Instructions:
Some blood tinged saliva is considered normal following dental extractions. Soft diet only (canned food or softened kibble) must be fed for the next 14 days while gums heal. Do not give any chew toys, etc. for the next 14 days while gums heal. The sutures will dissolve in 14 - 21 days. Nox has been sent home with pain medications, please give as directed on the label.

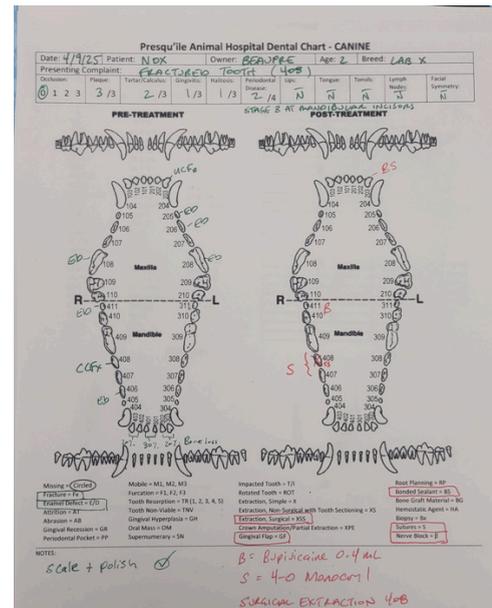
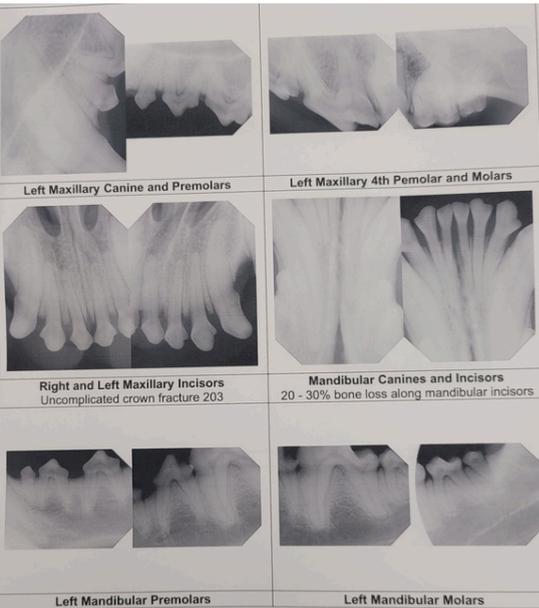
...ing, running, climbing or other, or playing with other dogs. Nox is recovering from anesthesia.
- Nox is going home with a complimentary sample bottle of Vetradent Water Additive. This water additive is formulated to help fight plaque and tartar, freshen breath, maintain and promote good dental and oral hygiene. Please monitor drinking habits when introducing the water additive.

Recheck Examination:

A recheck appointment will be booked in 10-14 days to assess healing of extraction sites.
Nox was the perfect model for today's photo shoot and dental procedure!
Please bug Steph with any questions or concerns.



Nox is discharged the same day of her surgery. She goes home with a complete dental report which includes her dental x-rays, a dental chart and her pain control medications.





Following the completion of the COHAT, surgical instruments are scrubbed clean and treated with an instrument lubricant.

Dental instruments are sharpened by hand and tested for sharpness.

They are then packaged into sterile trays and processed through our autoclave for sterilization.



Two weeks after surgery, Nox returns for her post-operative examination with Dr. Andrea. Her extraction site is examined and everything is looking great!

Dental home care is reviewed and a plan is made to use a dental diet, water additive and chews to help manage her plaque and tartar in the future.





Nox is back to carrying around toys, playing with her sister and going for runs in the woods after surgery and her owners are loving her fresh breath!