

Consil: Synthetic Bone Particulate

“The Savior For Hopeless Teeth”

Periodontal disease is the most common of all small animal medicinal problems. Most cats and dogs over five years-old will develop gum disease and bone loss around their teeth. *Unless you have been thoroughly brushing your pet's teeth daily from birth, this problem will affect your pet.* Even so, you may ask, “Why should I be concerned about a few loose teeth?”

The area where the tooth meets the gum accumulates plaque daily. **Plaque is an accumulation of bacteria.** Unless teeth are brushed daily to remove plaque, mineral-rich calculus develops over plaque, **which allows bacteria to reproduce under the gum-line, causing infection and bone loss.** Such infections often **spread into the bloodstream and on to the kidneys and heart valves.**

Unfortunately, bacterial by-products may destroy the tooth support, resulting in mobile teeth. In the past, loose teeth were extracted due to the body's ability to rebuild bone and ligament support. Now there is a way to save many of the teeth that were termed hopeless: Consil.

Consil is a synthetic bioactive ceramic material that bonds to bone as well as soft tissue and **can even regenerate bone in periodontal pockets.** It has been available as Bioglass for human periodontal care and recently been approved for use in companion animals as Consil (Nutramax Laboratories - Baltimore, Maryland). The material is used to pack the bone loss area, it does not migrate from the surgical site, and it **allows new bone and periodontal ligament to form.** The veterinarian exposes the pocket via flap surgery, applies Consil and closes the site with sutures.

As with other periodontal procedures, **daily teeth brushing is advised.** Thanks to Consil, many more dogs and cats will be able to keep their teeth... and smiles!