



**PD is the most common disease in dogs over 3 years of age!**

**Periodontal disease (PD)** is an infection and inflammation of the gums, bone, and tissue that surround and support the teeth.

**Plaque** is a biofilm made of saliva, food particles and bacteria.

**Tartar** or calculus is plaque and minerals.

When tartar accumulates above and below the gums it results in tooth decay, gum disease, and other negative health problems.

## Periodontal disease causes significant health and welfare problems.

Impacts of PD on **oral health** include:

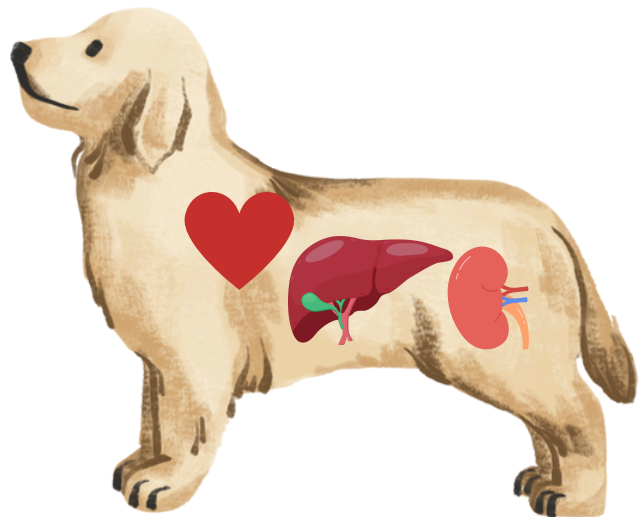
- Inflamed gums
- Bleeding gums
- Tooth loss

**Pain**

Bacteria gets into the bloodstream and can impact **organ health**

resulting in:

- Heart disease
- Liver disease
- Kidney disease
- Respiratory disease
- Diabetes mellitus
- Cognitive disorder



Potential effects on **reproduction** include:

- Premature birth
- Low birth weight
- Increased infant mortality
- Smaller litters

## Signs of periodontal disease include:

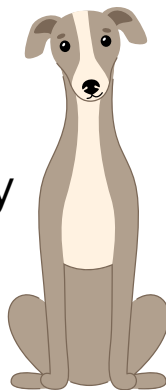
- bad breath
- discolored teeth (brown or yellow)
- inflamed or bleeding gums
- blood on chew items or in water bowl
- bloody saliva
- excessive drooling
- favoring one side of the mouth when chewing
- problems eating or reduced appetite
- pain or aggression when face or mouth is touched
- weight loss
- loose or missing teeth



## What are the risk factors for PD?

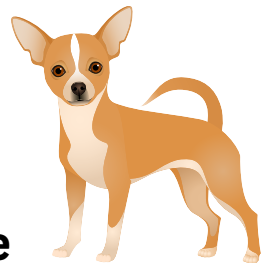
### Breed

Small, toy breeds, and Greyhounds are more likely to develop dental disease



### Size

Smaller dogs tend to have more dental disease than larger dogs.



### Age

Older dogs are more likely to develop dental disease



### Muzzle length

Short muzzled dogs such as Pugs and Bulldogs are at increased risk due to overcrowding of the teeth.

