Halitosis or oral malodor

History of coprophagy or ingesting foul-smelling substance/food

Cease coprophagy or ingestion of foul-smelling substance/food

Extraoral assessment

Check for lip fold pyoderma

Systemic/topical antimicrobials

Lip fold excision surgery

Intraoral assessment:
• Radiography
• OraStrip QuickCheck Canine (orastrap.com)
• Periodontal probing depth and mobility exam
• Halimeter measurement (halimeter.com)

Normal exam
(normal probing depth = <2 mm medium-sized dog, <1 mm cat)

Metabolic assessment:
• CBC
• Serum biochemistry profile
• Thyroid evaluation
• Urinalysis

• Autoimmune diseases of oral cavity
• Eosinophilic granuloma complex

Diagnosis

Diagnosis

Differential diagnosis

Investigate

Treatment

Results

CONTACT MUCOSAL ULCERATION
(lesions secondary to mucosal contact-bearing irritant, allergen, antigen)

Weekly OraVet (merial.com)
Strict q12h plaque control or
Surgicalextraction

Stage 1 (M1): Mobility increased over distance of >0.2–0.5 mm

Remove plaque/calculus

Stage 2 (M2): Mobility increased over distance of >0.5–1 mm

Remove plaque/calculus

DIAGNOSIS

TREATMENT

RESULTS

STAGE 1

STAGE 2

TOOTH MOBILITY

See Aids & Resources, back page, for references & suggested reading.
VOHC = Veterinary Oral Health Council

TYPES OF HALITOSIS
(caused by local and metabolic conditions)

FETOR ORIS/FETOR EX ORE:
Offensive odor arising from sources in the mouth

OSTOMIA: Putrid smell detected in the mouth but derived from upper respiratory tract (eg, nasal passages, sinus cavities, pharynx, larynx)

STOMATODYSIDIA: Foul breath originating from local areas in lower respiratory tract, particularly below the carina from the bronchi, bronchioles and alveoli, or other contiguous parts of the lung (eg, pleura)

Diagnosis

Differential diagnosis

Investigate

Treatment

Results

Contact mucosal ulceration (lesions secondary to mucosal contact-bearing irritant, allergen, antigen)

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Diagnosis

TREATMENT

RESULTS

STAGE 1

STAGE 2

TOOTH MOBILITY

See Aids & Resources, back page, for references & suggested reading.
VOHC = Veterinary Oral Health Council
Frequent reexamination and prevention; encourage client use of VOHC-accepted products (VOHC.org)

**Abnormal oral exam**

- **Stage 3 (M3):** Mobility increased over distance of >1 mm in any direction
  - Surgical extraction

**Normal-appearing periodontium**

- Coagulation and platelet tests
  - Petechiae
  - Chronic oral blood
  - Putrefaction

**Oral tumors causing bleeding, tissue necrosis**

- Fine-needle aspiration for cytopathology; tissue sample for histopathology

**Orthodontic malocclusion causing food impaction**

- Orthodontic movement to alleviate crowding
- Surgical extraction(s)

- Orthodontic movement to alleviate crowding
- Surgical extraction(s)

**Surgery: benign = 1 cm margins, malignant = 2 cm margins (all directions)**

**Periodontal disease**

- **Stage 1:** Gingivitis
  - Remove plaque/calculus
  - Home treatment:
    - Weekly Oravet (merial.com)
    - Brushing or dental wipes (DentAcetic, dechra-us.com)
    - q12h
    - VOHC-accepted diets, treats, additives, devices

- **Stage 2:**
  - <25% probing depth or attachment loss (measured from root apex to cemento-enamel junction)
  - Furcation involvement (F1; probe extends less than halfway under crown of multirooted tooth with attachment loss)
  - Remove plaque/calculus if pocket
  - Administer local antibiotics in pocket or pocket defects (clindamycin [Clindoral, triologicpharma.com]; doxycycline [Doxirobe, pfizerah.com])

- **Stage 3:**
  - 25%-50% support loss
  - Furcation involvement (F2; probe extends greater than halfway under crown of multirooted tooth with attachment loss)
  - Infrabony pockets (extend apical to alveolar crest):
    - Mucogingival surgery
    - Surgical extraction
  - Suprabony pockets (extend above crest of alveolar bone):
    - Local antibiotics
    - Gingivectomy
    - Apical reposition flap
    - Surgical extraction

- **Stage 4:**
  - >50% support loss
  - Furcation exposure (F3; probe extends through-and-through crown of multirooted tooth)
  - Surgical extraction
  - Oronasal fistula

- Surgical closure

**Home treatment:**
- Weekly Oravet (merial.com)
- Brushing or dental wipes (DentAcetic, dechra-us.com)
- q12h
- VOHC-accepted diets, treats, additives, devices

If home treatment is not an option, apply SANOS dental sealant (allacem.com)

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