



American Veterinary Dental College

Position Statement

**Removal or Reduction of Teeth as a Treatment for Canine or Feline Aggression**

When presented with an aggressive animal case where other corrective measures have failed (including but not limited to behavior modification) the veterinarian at his/her discretion may recommend full mouth extraction, crown reduction (to the gingival margin) or euthanasia.

AVDC understands that removal of crowns of teeth may be necessary in selected cases.

Full mouth extraction is an invasive procedure. Oral surgical techniques that minimize trauma must be used, and post-operative radiographs must be taken. Effective anesthetic techniques, monitoring, and pre and post-operative pain control measures must be used.

It must be understood that removal or reduction of teeth as a treatment for canine or feline aggression will not absolutely prevent injury to people or to other animals.)

*Adopted by the AVDC Board of Directors, 2009*

