

The Seven Days After Otis's Dental Procedure

Cleaning, full-mouth radiographs, and four extractions performed May 6, 2027. These instructions cover one patient and one recovery week.

SOFTENED FOOD FOR TEN DAYS — NOTHING HARD UNTIL THE MAY 16 RECHECK

Four extraction sites are closed with absorbable sutures that dissolve over 10 to 14 days. A biscuit, a bone, a chew toy, or a stick can open a site before the gum has sealed.

PATIENT Otis — canine, Beagle, neutered male, 8 yr	WEIGHT RECORDED 05/06/2027 11.3 kg (24.9 lb) — every dose below was calculated from this weight
OWNER Theo Brandt · mobile 555-0176 · portal messaging enabled	PERFORMED Scale and polish, full-mouth radiographs, extraction of teeth 105, 205, 307, 407
SUTURES 4-0 absorbable, all four sites closed; they dissolve in 10–14 days and are not removed	ANAESTHESIA Recovered and extubated 1:12p; walked and drank 3:30p
LOCAL BLOCK Bilateral infraorbital and inferior alveolar; the lip may feel numb until about 8:00p tonight	RECHECK Monday, May 16, 2027, 11:40a — oral examination, no fasting

THE SEVEN-DAY RECOVERY STRIP						
DAY	DATE	FOOD	WATER	ACTIVITY	ORAL CHECK	MEDICATION GIVEN TODAY
1	Thu May 6	One softened meal at 7:00p — 60 g kibble in 60 mL warm water, soaked 10 minutes	Free access from arrival	Indoors, leash outside only, 5 minutes	One look at 7:00p — lips only, do not open the mouth	Evening doses of all three
2	Fri May 7	Softened, 60 g per meal, 7:00a and 7:00p	Free access	Leash only, two 10-minute walks	7:00a and 7:00p	All three, morning and evening
3	Sat May 8	Softened, 60 g per meal	Free access	Leash only, two 15-minute walks	7:00a and 7:00p	All three, morning and evening
4	Sun May 9	Softened, 60 g per meal	Free access	Leash only, two 15-minute walks	7:00a and 7:00p	All three, morning and evening
5	Mon May 10	Softened, 60 g per meal	Free access	Leash walks, normal length	7:00a and 7:00p	Last gabapentin at 7:00a; carprofen and clindamycin continue
6	Tue May 11	Softened, 60 g per meal	Free access	Normal walks, no fetch	7:00a and 7:00p	Last carprofen at 7:00a; clindamycin continues
7	Wed May 12	Softened, 60 g per meal	Free access	Normal walks, no fetch, no chew toys	7:00a and 7:00p	Clindamycin only
8–10	Thu May 13 – Sat May 15	Still softened — the last clindamycin dose is 7:00a on May 13	Free access	Normal walks, still no chews or hard toys	Once daily at 7:00p	None after 7:00a on May 13
11	Mon May 16	Softened until after the 11:40a recheck	Free access	Normal walks	Done by the clinician at the recheck	None — bring every bottle to the visit

Otis normally eats 120 g of dry food per day, split into two 60 g meals. The amount does not change this week — only the texture. Soften it with warm water, never with milk or broth, and make it fresh for each meal.

MEDICATIONS DISPENSED TODAY — THREE ITEMS

MEDICINE AND STRENGTH	GIVE	CALCULATED DOSE	TIMES	FOOD	COURSE	DISPENSED	FIRST / LAST DOSE
Carprofen 25 mg chewable tablet	1 tablet (25 mg)	2.2 mg/kg	7:00a and 7:00p	Always with food	5 days	10 tablets	05/06 7:00p → 05/11 7:00a
Gabapentin 100 mg capsule	1 capsule (100 mg)	8.8 mg/kg	7:00a and 7:00p	With or without	4 days	8 capsules	05/06 7:00p → 05/10 7:00a
Clindamycin 25 mg/mL oral solution	2.5 mL (62.5 mg)	5.5 mg/kg	7:00a and 7:00p	With food, then 5 mL of water	7 days	40 mL bottle + 3 mL oral syringe (0.1 mL graduations)	05/06 7:00p → 05/13 7:00a

Fourteen clindamycin doses of 2.5 mL use 35 mL of the 40 mL bottle. Follow every dose with about 5 mL of water from the same syringe — the solution is bitter and drool is the usual reason a dog refuses the second dose. Bring the bottle back on May 16 so the remainder can be counted and disposed of here.

THE TWICE-DAILY ORAL CHECK — 30 SECONDS, LIPS ONLY

1. Lift the upper lip on one side with a thumb. Do not pry the mouth open and do not put a finger between the teeth.
2. Look at the gum above teeth 105 and 205 — the two upper extraction sites.
3. Lift the lower lip and look at the gum behind the last lower premolar on each side, where 307 and 407 were.
4. Note the colour of the gum line, any swelling, and whether the suture line is still closed.
5. Smell his breath from 15 cm away — a change in smell is a finding worth reporting.
6. Write what you saw on the strip above. Take a photograph on days 1, 4, and 7.

WHAT IS EXPECTED, AND WHAT IS NOT

EXPECTED THIS WEEK	CALL THE HOSPITAL TODAY	CALL NOW — DO NOT WAIT
Pink-red gum at the suture lines for 3–4 days	Gum that is pale, grey, or dark red	Steady bleeding from the mouth
Blood-tinged saliva on days 1 and 2	Fresh bleeding after day 2	A suture line that has opened
Chewing on one side, dropping a few pieces	Refusing both meals in a row	Cannot or will not drink at all
Slight facial puffiness on day 2 that settles	Facial swelling that grows after day 3	Swelling under an eye, or a closed eye
Mild drool after the clindamycin	Drool that is thick, ropery, or smells	Pawing at the mouth constantly
Quieter than usual on days 1 and 2	Still quiet and off food on day 4	Collapse, or breathing difficulty

WHAT MUST NOT GO IN HIS MOUTH UNTIL AFTER THE MAY 16 RECHECK

NOT THIS WEEK	WHY	WHAT REPLACES IT THIS WEEK
Dry kibble as served, biscuits, and training treats	Hard pieces strike the suture lines directly	The same kibble, softened in warm water for 10 minutes
Bones, antlers, hooves, and hard nylon chews	These can fracture teeth even in an uninjured mouth	Nothing — chewing resumes only if the May 16 recheck clears it
Tennis balls, sticks, frisbees, and tug toys	All four involve gripping and pulling with the mouth	Scent games and food puzzles that release softened food
Toothbrushing, dental wipes, and oral rinses	Brushing a healing suture line reopens it	Nothing. A brushing plan is written at the May 16 visit.
Dental chews and water additives	Same reason, and several are abrasive	Nothing this week
Rough play with the other dog in the household	Mouthing and grabbing during play	Separate them when unsupervised for the full 10 days

WHO TO CALL, AND WHICH NUMBER

SITUATION	NUMBER	HOURS	EXPECT
Question about food texture, a dose, or the schedule	555-0180	Mon–Sat 7:30a–6:00p	Callback same day
Send a photograph of a suture line	Portal message	Any time	Reviewed by 6:00p on business days
Anything in the “call today” column	555-0180, say “dental patient”	Mon–Sat 7:30a–6:00p	Triaged within 1 hour
Anything in the “call now” column	555-0188	24 hours	Immediate
Moving the May 16 recheck	555-0180, option 1	Mon–Sat 7:30a–6:00p	Same day

THE MAY 16 RECHECK, AND WHAT IS DECIDED THERE

- The four extraction sites are examined and photographed for the record.
- The remaining clindamycin is counted and disposed of at the hospital.
- Dr. Marchetti confirms the date Otis returns to his normal dry food.
- A home dental plan is written at that visit and given to you in writing — including whether and when brushing starts.
- The radiographs taken on May 6 are reviewed with you on screen.
- The next dental assessment interval is set and booked before you leave.

Deferred to the recheck: Nothing about brushing, chews, diets, or dental products is decided on this sheet. That conversation happens on May 16, once the sites have healed.

OWNER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

INSTRUCTIONS REVIEWED WITH Theo Brandt	REVIEWED BY L. Marchetti, DVM · 05/06/2027 4:36p	MEDICATIONS COUNTED WITH OWNER Yes — 3 items, quantities as listed
OWNER SIGNATURE	DATE	COPY SENT TO PORTAL 05/06/2027 4:42p

Boundary: This sheet describes one patient's recovery after one procedure on one date. It is not general guidance about dental disease, extractions, feeding, or home dental care in animals, and the doses shown were calculated only for Otis at 11.3 kg. If you are reading it for a different animal, stop and call your own veterinarian.

FICTIONAL SPECIMEN. Willow Creek Veterinary Hospital, Otis, the owner, the clinicians, the tooth numbers, the record numbers, and every quantity, date, and time on this sheet are invented for a published demonstration. This is not veterinary advice and must not be used for any real animal.