



**Bristol Veterinary Service, S.C.**  
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## **Dentistry**

All veterinarians at Bristol Veterinary Service have additional education in equine dentistry, while several of our doctors have pursued advanced training. Dental care is one of the foundation pillars of our preventative/wellness programs. Annual dental examinations are standard with more frequent checkups recommended should where problems are found to exist.

Loss of teeth and other dental problems play a critical role the longevity of the horse's health and life. Dental disease may cause pain, poor digestion and often creates a domino effect for other health issues. Age related tooth loss is natural and common in senior horses. Although these problems may occur unexpectedly, more often than not they have developed over time. What is needed is to catch dental problems early in their development before they create further dysfunction or loss of teeth. This is where dental exams and routine maintenance is vital. We at Bristol Vet Service concentrate on prevention through early detection. Function and preservation is more important the ascetics.

With annual examinations it will be determined if there is any underlying dental problems or whether your horse requires routine floating (filing of sharp natural occurring points or imbalances). We find that average healthy adult horses need floating every 18-24 months. Exceptions are common and especially in senior horses. We recommend senior horses be routinely checked both spring and fall.

Though examinations and teeth floating are the most common dental procedures, Bristol's veterinarians also provide services including dental radiography, tooth extraction and treatment other common oral/dental diseases.