## Client Education Series: Dentigerous Cyst





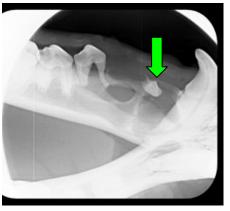
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## What is a Dentigerous Cyst?

A cyst is a fluid filled cavity, and dentigerous means bearing teeth = a dentigerous cyst is a fluid filled area in the bone associated with crown of an unerupted tooth

The lower first premolar (behind the canine or fang tooth) is the most common site, and they can happen on one or both sides of the mouth



Dentigerous cysts are more common in Brachycephalic breeds (smoosh faced dogs)

Diagnosis is made with dental radiographs, and appears as a well-demarcated radiolucent lesion around unerupted tooth



## **Treatment for Dentigerous Cysts:**

Oral surgery is needed to remove the unerupted teeth and debride or clean out the lining of the cyst so that no more fluid is produced and the bone can heal.



The tissue is submitted for biopsy to confirm the correct diagnosis. There is a small chance the cyst may persist and additional surgery may be needed.

Even though cysts are benign, if the cyst is not treated, it will continue to grow and the fluid pressure will destroy bone.