



Guide Dogs for the Blind

Discharge Instructions for Puppy with Base Narrow Canines

The puppy you are raising has mild base narrow canines. In this condition the lower canine teeth are angled straight upward, instead of tipping outward. Currently the lower canines only have mild contact the upper gums.

Please have your local veterinarian monitor the lower canines at the puppy's regular vaccine appointments. For some puppies, the position of the lower canines will self-correct as they grow. However, if the canines cause persistent or worsening irritation to the gums above, your veterinarian may recommend removal of the lower baby canine teeth. If extraction of the baby canine teeth is performed, care must be taken to avoid damaging the bud of the emerging adult canine tooth. If your veterinarian recommends this procedure, please call our Veterinary Financial Assistance (VFA) Team (1-800-295-4050) to discuss pre-authorization for the procedure.

It will also be important to monitor the adult lower canine teeth as they grow. If these adult lower canines contact or irritate the gums above, then additional dental care will be needed to help correct this abnormal position. At the 20-week vaccine appointment, please discuss with your veterinarian if there are any concerns with the puppy's teeth positioning. If so, they may recommend a recheck at 6 months of age to monitor the teeth.