



# Young Maltese

*Maltese are a brave, gentle and playful breed. You should also know they can be predisposed to the following ailments. Examinations twice a year and routine diagnostics to catch problems early, when they are easiest to treat, are recommended for the life of your dog.*

## Periodontal Disease

### Description

Periodontal disease, which is inflammation and infection of gum tissue, occurs when plaque and tartar are allowed to build up on teeth. It progresses to gum recession, and bone and tooth loss.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** oral exams twice a year and annual dental cleanings.

### Why Needed

Periodontal disease can contribute to:

- Pain
- Difficulty eating
- Jaw bone and/or tooth loss
- Kidney, liver and heart disease
- Behavioral changes

## Mitral Valve Disease

### Description

Mitral valve disease is a progressive condition where the mitral valve of the heart degrades. As the mitral valve degrades, it cannot close properly and small amounts of blood lead back into the left atrium. Eventually congestive heart failure occurs.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** annual electrocardiogram

### Why Needed

Mitral valve can contribute to:

- Dyspnea (difficulty breathing)
- Coughing
- Exercise intolerance
- Weakness
- Congestive heart failure

## Glaucoma

### Description

Glaucoma is a very painful condition in which fluid in the eye cannot drain as fast as it is being produced, leading to excessive pressure. The pressure crushes the lining of the retina.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** comprehensive exams twice a year, intraocular pressure check.

### Why Needed

Glaucoma can contribute to:

- Extreme pain
- Squinting
- Watery, irritated eyes
- Swollen or bulging eyes
- Blindness

## Optimum Wellness Plans® and Maltese

### Included in the Special Care Plan

- Oral examinations twice a year\*
- Annual dental cleaning
- Annual electrocardiogram (the recommended wellness plan includes two a year)
- Intraocular pressure check\*

\*Part of the comprehensive examination

Plus the preventive care in each plan and 20% off on nearly all products and services

Consult your Banfield medical team for the best plan level for your individual pet.



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