



# Young Pomeranian

*Pomeranians 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. For more information about your pet, talk to your Banfield medical team.*

Photo courtesy of Jean-Michel Labat

## 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

## Patellar Luxation

### Description

Patellar luxation is when the kneecap pops out of place. This is due to the groove in the femur being too shallow or the ligaments that hold the kneecap in place pulling it off to the side.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** orthopedic examinations twice a year. Your veterinarian may also discuss weight management as a preventive measure.

### Why Needed

Patellar luxation can contribute to:

- Pain
- Arthritis
- Scraping of the kneecap against the femur
- Reduced mobility
- The need for surgery in severe cases

## Hypothyroidism

### Description

Hypothyroidism is a condition where the body doesn't make enough thyroid hormone. Thyroid hormone regulates many functions in the body such as metabolism.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** annual thyroid hormone testing beginning at age 2.

### Why Needed

Hypothyroidism can contribute to:

- Dry skin and coat
- Weight gain
- Lethargy
- Mental dullness
- Excessive sleep

## Sick Sinus Syndrome

### Description

The sinus node is a part of the system that sends electrical impulses to the heart. The sinus node signals the heart to contract or beat. Sick Sinus Syndrome is a condition in which the sinus node doesn't work properly.

### Early Detection

**Recommended:** an annual electrocardiogram.

### Why Needed

Sick Sinus Syndrome can contribute to:

- Fainting
- Low heart rate
- The need for a pacemaker in severe cases

## Optimum Wellness Plans® and Pomeranians

### Included in the Special Care Plan

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

For other breed handouts go to [bandfield.com/dogbreeds](http://bandfield.com/dogbreeds).

