

**CONSERVATION OF A CARIOUS TOOTH IN A PET ANIMAL
- A CASE REPORT**

M.L.A.N.R. DEEPANI*, I. GOONERATNE** AND
D.D.N. DE SILVA*

**Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences,
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science,
**Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya*

Although dental caries have been reported to exist among dogs in Sri Lanka, conservation measures adopted have not been reported to date.

Teeth play an important role in mastication and conservation of the diseased teeth and attending to dental diseases are necessary for the well-being of the animal.

This communication reports of a case of a four year-old male mongrel which was diagnosed as having dental caries and was treated by restoration at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, University of Peradeniya.

The entire procedure was carried-out under general anaesthesia. The tooth was diagnosed to be grossly carious and had no involvement of the pulp. The tooth was isolated with sterile cotton-swabs, and the affected dentine was excavated manually using a dental excavator. The tooth was rinsed with water and the cavity was air-dried. Subsequently the cavity was filled with GIC (Glass Ionomer Cement, Fuji 1X) using ART (Atraumatic Restorative Technique) and with minimum dental instrumentation and the tooth was finally covered with vaseline. After full recovery from anaesthesia, the animal was sent home and necessary post-operative instructions were also given to the client.

After three weeks, the animal was examined and the restoration was found to be intact, with no subsequent pulpal or periodontal involvement. It is suggested that this technique be carried-out in more animals before recommending for routine dental restoration in dogs.