

A cross-sectional study to estimate prevalence of periodontal disease in a population of dogs (*Canis familiaris*) in commercial breeding facilities in Indiana and Illinois

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Findings

- Periodontal (dental) disease (PD) was visually scored using an O-IV scale where 0 is no disease and IV is severe disease.
- Overall prevalence of PD (Grade I-IV) was 86.3% with 15.5% having Grade III or IV considered severe disease. Overall prevalence was similar to the reported 80% of companion dogs in homes affected.
- Older dogs and dogs of smaller breed were more likely to be affected.
- All facilities were providing some type of preventive dental care to their dogs with chew items appearing to be most effective in prevention of PD.
- These findings do not support the assumption that the dental health of dogs housed in commercial breeding facilities is worse than the dog population as a whole.