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Enamel Hypoplasia

Enamel is the hard outer surface of a tooth. In fact, it is the hardest tissue in the body. When the enamel does not form correctly or is damaged during development, it is referred to as **enamel hypoplasia**. This condition is seen in dogs that had high fevers or an illness such as distemper as a puppy.

The loss of enamel exposes the dentin and weakens the tooth. Dentin is a porous material that can allow fluid and bacteria into the nerve of the tooth. This condition can cause pets to have sensitivity to hot or cold. Loss of enamel makes the surface of the tooth rough and therefore more attractive to plaque bacteria. It is recommended that this condition be treated to prevent bacteria from entering the tooth.

