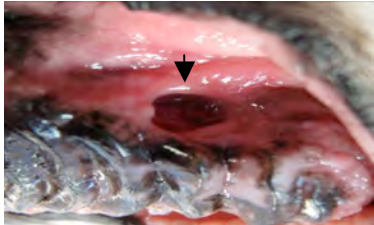


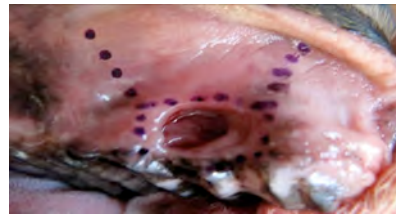
ORONASAL FISTULA



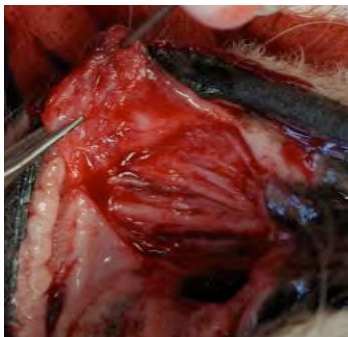
Oronasal fistulas are a communication between the oral cavity and the nasal sinus. One of the most common sites for an oronasal fistula is in the area of the maxillary (upper) canines. Sometimes the tooth is present with an oronasal fistula and sometimes the tooth has fallen out or was extracted and the gum tissue did not heal properly. This abnormal communication should be closed surgically to prevent infection of the nose and respiratory tract which, in severe cases, could lead to pneumonia.



Oronasal fistula present where the right maxillary (upper) canine used to be. This hole leads from the mouth to the nasal sinus



Surgical planning for the oronasal fistula repair.



Oral surgery to correct the oronasal fistula. A mucogingival (gum) flap is created with no tension.



This mucogingival (gum) flap is sutured over the oronasal fistula for surgical repair. There is no longer communication between the mouth and