



Entropion

What is entropion?

Entropion is an abnormal 'rolling-in' of the eyelid, which causes the hairs of the eyelid to rub against the cornea (the clear surface of the eye). Entropion can occur in either the upper or lower eyelid or in both eyelids simultaneously.

What causes entropion?

Entropion is commonly caused by inheriting a poor eyelid conformation. However, occasionally entropion results from an eyelid spasm due to another painful eye condition.

What breeds are commonly affected?

Although any breed can be affected, entropion is commonly seen in such breeds as the Bulldog, Bloodhound, Chow, Shar Pei, Rottweiler and Retrievers.

How do I know if my dog has entropion?

As both eyes are usually affected simultaneously, most people notice their dog holding his eyes partially closed. Inherited entropion usually affects dogs under 1 year of age.

How is entropion diagnosed?

A thorough examination of the eye is performed to ensure there are no other painful eye conditions present which are causing an eyelid spasm. If none are found, a diagnosis of entropion is made.

How is entropion treated?

Surgery is required to correct entropion. This procedure involves the removal of a small portion of skin to 'tighten' the eyelid. Temporary eyelid tacking may be used in very young dogs; permanent surgical correction is often delayed until the dog has developed a more mature head conformation, at approximately 4-6 months of age.

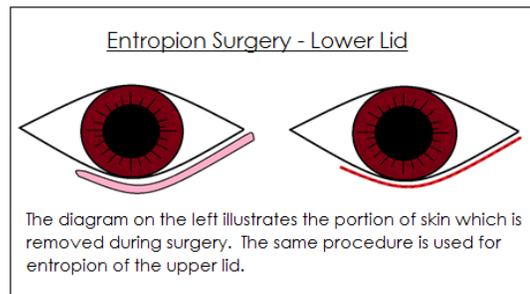
If entropion is not corrected, the eyelid hairs will continue to rub against the surface of the eye causing pain, corneal ulcers, pigmentation and scarring which can result in vision loss.

Will entropion recur after surgery?

In the majority of cases, entropion will not recur. However, some breeds such as the Shar Pei and Chow may have severe and complex entropion which requires several corrective surgeries.

How will my dog look after surgery?

After surgery, the eyes will initially appear 'over-corrected' (or 'rolled-out') due to swelling. This is normal and will subside over the next week or so. You may notice some blood or blood tinged





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discharge from the eye for a few days; this can be gently wiped away with a moist tissue or facecloth.

The sutures in the eyelids are dissolvable and will fall out on their own. However, it may take up to a month for this to happen.

It is important to ensure your dog wears his Elizabethan Collar (e-collar, or cone collar) **at all times for at least a full week after surgery**. The e-collar will prevent him from rubbing his eyes and potentially causing damage which may require additional surgery to correct!

What will I need to do at home?

The success of your dog's surgery depends upon a variety of factors, including your commitment to his aftercare. If you have any questions or concerns regarding what to expect in the weeks following surgery, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are always happy to answer your questions, and help ease any concerns you may have.

Once your dog is home, you will need to:

- Keep an Elizabethan Collar (cone) on him at all times, even at night
- Keep him quiet, and refrain from vigorous exercise
- Carefully wipe away any discharge from the eye with a clean, moist tissue or face cloth
- Administer his medication as prescribed, ensuring it is given at the appropriate time (4 times daily, is the same as every 6 hours)
- If administering several different eye drops, wait 5 minutes between each drop, to ensure the medication is not flushed from the eye before it has the opportunity to absorb
- If giving both drops and ointment, always administer the drops first, ointment last. Ointments leave a residue on the eye, which will prevent drops administered immediately after from being absorbed
- Monitor your pet's eye for any changes, and contact us immediately should you become concerned

Please remember to book a follow-up appointment, as requested by the ophthalmologist. It is important for us to monitor the healing process!



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