



Medial Canthal Entropion

What is Medial Canthal Entropion?

Medial canthal entropion is a condition whereby the eyelids at the inner corner of the eye roll inwards. This causes the hairs which are growing in the corner of the eye to 'wick' tears onto the face, causing wetness and staining of the fur. In some breeds, these hairs can rub against the cornea (the clear surface of the eye) causing irritation and scarring which may potentially result in vision loss.

What causes this?

Medial canthal entropion is an inherited eyelid conformation.

What breeds are commonly affected?

Medial canthal entropion is commonly seen in small dog breeds such as the Shih Tzu, Lhasa Apso, Poodle, Maltese and Pug.

How is it treated?

Surgery is required to correct this condition, involving removal of the skin from which the offending hairs are growing.

How will my dog look after surgery?

Initially, your dog's eyes will look different, or smaller than before. This is to be expected and will subside during the healing process. You may notice some bloody or blood tinged discharge from the eyes for a few days following surgery; this can be wiped away *gently* using a tissue or moist cloth.

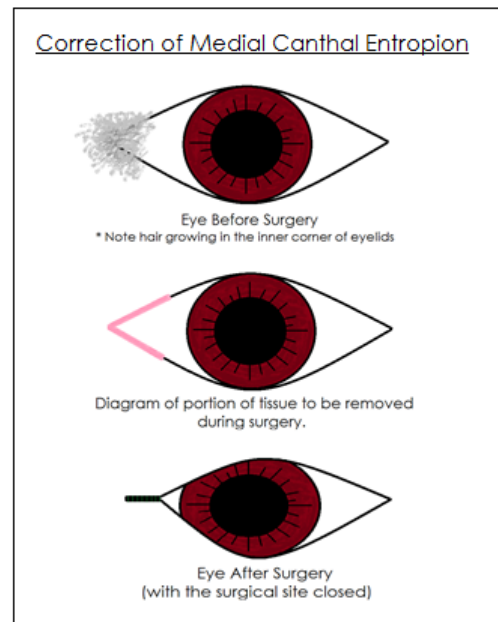
Dissolvable stitches are used for this procedure; subsequently removal is not necessary. However, it is important to note that it may take up to a month for the sutures to fall out.

Your dog will be sent home with an Elizabethan Collar (an e-collar, or cone collar). **It is important for the e-collar to be worn at all times, including during meals and at bedtime.** The collar will need to be worn for at least two weeks to prevent him from rubbing his eyes. Rubbing or pawing at the eye may damage the surgical site or the eye itself, which in turn may require additional surgery to repair.

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:





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- 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!

Final note: if your pet frequents a groomer, be sure to have this done before surgery, as he cannot be groomed again until his eye has completely healed (possibly a month or longer). You may want to consider having his face and neck clipped, to prevent his fur from matting while wearing his e-collar, and food from collecting in his beard.