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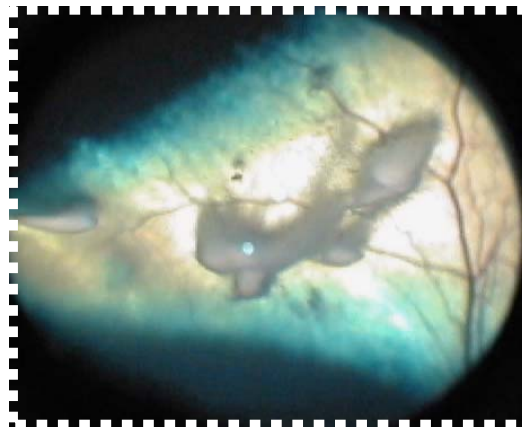
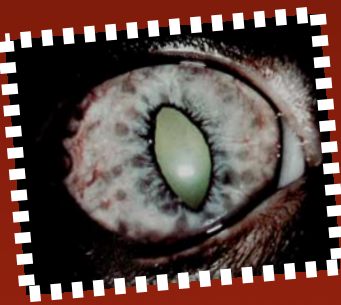
the ANIMAL EYE CLINIC

Islington Animal Clinic, Dr J Wolfer DVM, DACVO 416-232-0211

✕ New Treatments for Uveitis ✕

Uveitis, or inflammation of the iris, ciliary body or choroid is a common ophthalmic disease of the dog and cat. While there are many causes for uveitis in domestic animals including infection, trauma, neoplasia and immune mediated disease, successful treatment always comes down to adequate control of inflammation. Muscle, skin or bone can withstand a fair degree of inflammation and still function, not so for the delicate internal structures of the eye. Topical steroids can be an effective tool, however in some cases they do not penetrate well enough or have detrimental side effects within the cornea. Your local veterinary ophthalmologist may instead elect to inject anti-inflammatory medication and/or antibiotic directly into the vitreous. This brings a high concentration of drug directly to the area in which it is required without swamping the body's immune system with high doses of steroid or antibiotic.

In the cat, one of the only signs that an eye may have chronic uveitis is the presence of blood vessels growing on the surface of the iris, called Rubeosis iridis. This finding coupled with precipitates on the inner surface of the cornea are a good diagnostic indicator of uveitis.



This photograph shows corticosteroid suspended in the vitreous cavity of a dog with uveitis



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Cataract Surgery Benefits Screech Owl

We were presented late this fall with a Screech Owl from the Owl Foundation in Vineland Ontario. Both eyes of this exquisite little bird were affected by dense nuclear cataracts, and vision was impaired. We enlisted the help of Geri Higginson from the Ontario Veterinary College and performed successful cataract surgery under general anesthesia. Speaking with Kara at the Owl Foundation in January, I was delighted to hear that our little patient was definitely seeing much better as he had become very difficult to catch. It is likely that he will be released this spring. Cataract surgery in birds is performed by phacoemulsification, just as in other animals, and since the bird lens is quite soft, the surgery usually goes quite well. Anesthesia is the hardest part of the procedure and we are very grateful to Geri for coming all the way from Guelph to help us out.

The Animal Eye Clinic is proud to provide free eye examinations for all Owls at the Owl Foundation in Vineland.



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