

MEDIAL CANTHAL ENTROPION

WHAT IS MEDIAL CANTHAL ENTROPION?

Medial canthal entropion is a condition where the eyelids at the inner corner of the eye roll inwards. This rolling-in causes the hairs that are growing in the corner of the eye to “wick” the tears out onto the face, causing wetness and staining of the fur. In some breeds, these hairs can even rub on the cornea (the clear surface of the eye), and cause irritation and scarring, which can potentially lead to vision loss.

WHAT CAUSES MEDIAL CANTHAL ENTROPION?

Medial canthal entropion is an inherited eyelid conformation.

WHAT BREEDS ARE COMMONLY AFFECTED?

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

HOW IS MEDIAL CANTHAL ENTROPION TREATED?

Surgery is required to correct medial canthal entropion. This involves removal of the skin from which the offending hairs are growing.

DIAGRAMS SHOWING HOW MEDIAL CANTHAL ENTROPION IS CORRECTED:

Eye before surgery - note the hair growing out of the inner corner of the eyelids:

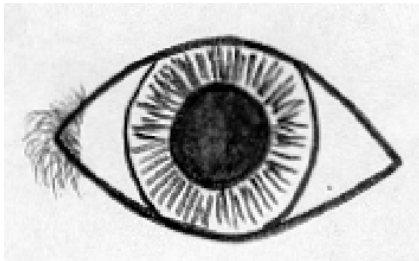
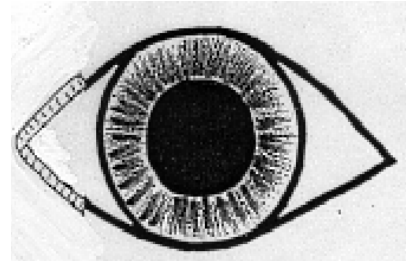
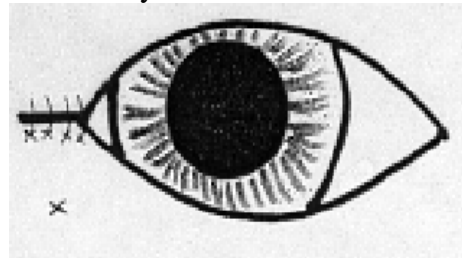


Diagram showing the portion of tissue removed during surgery:



Appearance of the eye after the wound has been closed:



HOW WILL MY DOG LOOK AFTER SURGERY?

Initially, after surgery, the eyes will look different or smaller than before. This is normal and will subside as healing takes place. You may notice some bloody +/- or blood tinged

discharge from the eyes for a few days. This can be gently cleaned away with a kleenex. The stitches in the eyelids are dissolvable and will fall out on their own (this can take up to a month). It is important that your dog wears the head collar AT ALL TIMES for at least 2 weeks to prevent him/her from rubbing at the eyes and potentially doing damage (which may require more surgery to correct!)

WHAT WILL I NEED TO DO AT HOME?

- When using eye drops, be sure to hold the lids open so the medication is placed directly onto the eye.
- Keep the head collar on at all times, even at night.
- VERY GENTLY keep the eyes clean by wiping away any discharge from the eye with a clean, moist Kleenex or face cloth.
- Keep your pet quiet.
- Book the recheck appointments as requested by the doctor. It is important to monitor your pet to ensure proper healing.

****IMPORTANT - BEFORE SURGERY!!****

If your dog regularly goes to a groomer for clipping, be sure to have this done BEFORE surgery, as your pet will not be allowed any visits to the groomer until the eyes are well healed (which can take up to a few weeks after surgery). It may be worth while asking the groomer to clip the face & ears short to prevent the fur from matting while the head collar is on.