

## Eye Surgery: What You Need to Know

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We have recommended a surgical procedure to treat your pet's eye condition. The information below should help you prepare for surgery and understand what is involved following the procedure.

### Before surgery

The specific condition, surgical plan and cost estimate should have been explained clearly to you during the initial consultation with Dr Bayley. Until the day of surgery, please continue all prescribed medications as instructed.

On the day before surgery, your pet should be fasted that evening from 9pm (no food) so the stomach is empty for surgery, however free access to water is fine.

### On the day of surgery

Please have your pet at the veterinary hospital **between 8am to 10am** on the morning of surgery. Your pet will usually go home later the same day. Please bring in any medications and/or Elizabethan collar that you already have, along with a normal breakfast meal that we can feed your pet after surgery.

**Please note** that you will be asked to pay a deposit of half of the surgical cost estimate when you arrive in the morning. The remainder of the invoice is to be paid later in the day when you pick your pet up.

Once admitted, your pet will be examined and given some pain relief and sedative medication. They will then be anaesthetised with a combination of injectable and inhalational drugs when we are ready to begin the procedure. All patients will have their airway supported by an endotracheal tube, and the vascular system managed by intravenous catheterization and fluids. A variety of specialist equipment is used to continuously monitor your pet throughout the procedure.

Following the surgery, your pet is recovered from the anaesthetic whilst under strict supervision to make sure they recover safely and in a calmly. They also receive additional pain relief medication at this stage.

Most cases will have an Elizabethan collar (cone) placed to prevent them rubbing out the sutures. As the sutures are very small, sometimes smaller than a human hair, they can be easily disrupted by a front paw rubbing the face. The Elizabethan collar is a bit of a nuisance for you and your pet, but please remember that it is temporary and cheap insurance to help prevent a second procedure being required.

A discharge information sheet will be provided which contains all of the information you need to know following the surgery. This information sheet should be explained to you either when you pick up your pet, or over the phone at a suitable time.

### After the surgery day

Please follow the instructions set out in the discharge information sheet. If there are any questions please contact us.

For dogs it is very important that the Elizabethan collar stays on until the next appointment. While the Elizabethan collar is on, dogs should be walked on a lead only. Generally, following ocular surgery your pet does not need to be exercise restricted, however rough play with other dogs, children or balls/toys/sticks is best avoided until the sutures are removed.

For cats, most can have the Elizabethan collar removed while under supervision 1-2 days following surgery, as they generally do not bother the surgical site. While the Elizabethan collar is on, cats must not be let outside. Cats can groom the surgical area, but if they are rubbing it excessively the Elizabethan collar should be put back on.

A reassessment consultation will be recommended after the procedure, often around two weeks later. For the vast majority of cases, the post-operative consultations are at no additional charge. If further medication or additional procedures are required, they will be charged as appropriate and you will be informed of the additional cost.

If you have any other questions about the planned procedure please feel free to contact reception on (04) 390 9134 or at [reception@vosvet.co.nz](mailto:reception@vosvet.co.nz).