

# ENUCLEATION

## REMOVAL OF THE EYE

### WHAT DOES ENUCLEATION MEAN?

An enucleation is an operation performed to remove the eye. It is commonly advised to relieve uncontrollable pain.

### WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE SURGERY?

The eye will be removed under a general anaesthetic. The fur around the eye will be clipped, their eyeball and eyelids removed and their wound sutured. Once the surgery is complete, skin will cover the empty eye socket with a small scar initially present.

### RECOVERY AND AFTERCARE

Your pet may have some swelling and bruising around the surgical site, but this will improve after the first few days. Ice packing can help reduce any swelling if tolerated. You may see a small amount of blood-stained fluid weeping from the wound or down the tear duct to the nose. This is normal. Your pet will be given some pain relief to relieve any discomfort. We will send your pet home with a buster collar which must be worn at all times to protect the wound, we will advise at your review appointment when it is safe to remove.

### WHEN IS IT NECESSARY TO REMOVE AN EYE?

- There are many reasons why your pets' eye may need to be removed, this is not an exhaustive list
- A tumour is present in the eye
- Severe eye ulcers/injury, uveitis
- Glaucoma

### WHEN SHOULD I CONTACT THE VET?

We understand this procedure can be worrying, and we are on hand 24/7 for any advise. If the swelling or bruising around your dogs eye gets worse, or more than a few drips of blood come from the wound, please call us.

### OWNING A ONE-EYED/BLIND PET

It can feel overwhelming or upsetting when our pet loses an eye, but they adapt remarkably well to changes in vision. Many members of our team have blind or partially sighted animals and are happy to share their experiences.

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### **ANY QUESTIONS?**

Do not hesitate to contact us.

Call us on: 012433888091

Email us on: [advice@optivet.com](mailto:advice@optivet.com)

Visit our website: [www.optivet.com](http://www.optivet.com)

### **WE ARE HERE FOR YOU**

The bond between you and your pet is strong, and it is common for guardians to feel like they have let their pet down when they have to make the difficult choice to enucleate the eye. Please be reassured that you are doing the kind thing and making a brave decision for them.

We can offer a listening ear here at Optivet. Please contact our Emotional Support Advisor Sam if you would like any additional support during this difficult time. We can provide some photos of previous surgeries to help you prepare what your pet may look like, please ask a member of the team if you feel this would be beneficial for you.

