

Frequently Asked Questions – Entropion Surgery

What kind of care is needed after surgery? One eye drop, an antibiotic, will need to be administered 4 times a day for approximately 2 weeks. Three oral medications will be sent home as well (a pain medication, an anti-inflammatory, and an antibiotic). These will need to be administered 1-2 times a day for 10 days following surgery. Moderate discharge and/or a blood-tinged discharge from the eye may be present for 10-14 days that will require daily cleansing using a warm water-soaked cotton ball.

I travel a long distance; can my veterinarian recheck the surgery? A patient's healing response following surgery differs and cannot always be predicted. Although surgery is performed correctly, the healing response may differ in each patient based on scar tissue formation, rate of healing, whether the protective collar was left in place, or if the surgical incisions were disrupted following surgery. It is imperative that the patient be re-evaluated at The Animal Ophthalmology Center and at the pre-determined scheduled re-evaluation appointment. Clients should not view this re-evaluation as an inconvenience—it is a necessary step in assuring that healing is normal and complete. When a client cancels a no-charge surgical recheck appointment or fails to return for post-operative evaluation, and subsequently the patient develops problems that require additional surgical intervention, additional fees are the responsibility of the client.

How long will my pet have to wear the e-collar? Your pet MUST wear a protective collar AT ALL TIMES for 10 days. This is a necessary part of the post-operative treatment. The incisions must be allowed to heal without rubbing. We understand this is a very difficult adjustment for some pets but most adapt after 24-48 hours. PLEASE DO NOT ALTER/TRIM BACK OR REMOVE THE COLLAR.

Do the sutures need to be removed? All sutures placed are dissolvable and do not need to be removed. The sutures will begin to dissolve 5-7 days after surgery, and will be completely dissolved within 3-4 weeks. If the sutures are causing irritation at the time of recheck, generally 2-3 weeks after surgery, Dr. Ramsey may choose to remove the remaining sutures at that time.

Can my pet be alone the day after surgery? Yes. We recommend using a kennel or a confined area of your home, such as a kitchen, and away from other pets when left alone.

Are there any complications I should watch for after surgery? Any time there is an incision made there is always a risk of infection. For this reason, it is important to follow our post-operative treatment recommendations sent home. Other complications associated with this surgery are usually related to self-trauma (rubbing the incision too soon). This is why it is absolutely necessary to keep the protective collar on at all times during the recommended period. Some pet's may require wearing the collar for a longer period of time than originally recommended. Two recheck appointments are included at no charge following surgery. If complications do arise, additional rechecks, surgery, and/or medications may be necessary. ***If surgery needs repeating within 6 months of the original surgery, charges will be incurred for general anesthesia and medications only. If entropion reoccurs more than 6 months from the surgery date, full surgery costs will be incurred.*** NOTE: Allergies, ulcers or other eye problems can develop months to years after entropion surgery and can cause entropion to develop again unrelated to initial entropion. The eyelids have a "memory" and if prolonged squinting is allowed to occur, the eyelid can become permanently tilted again and surgery may need to be repeated. Not all types of entropion need to be surgically treated, however it is important to contact us to determine what is necessary. If your pet begins squinting/tearing again in the future, this does not indicate that surgery was unsuccessful. Please contact us immediately for re-evaluation if squinting is noted at any time after entropion surgery. The sooner this is addressed, the less likely it is that surgery may need to be repeated.

I have read and understand the above information. The risks and complications associated with surgery have been explained to me to my understanding and satisfaction. I understand that I am responsible for asking any questions I have about this surgical procedure, aftercare instructions, and possible complications associated with this surgical procedure prior to pursuing surgery. In signing below, I understand and accept these risks.

X _____ DATE _____