



COMPLETE OPHTHALMIC CARE

We believe that medical and surgical management of your pet's ophthalmic condition can be optimized if we work as a team with your local veterinarian. Some ophthalmic conditions develop due to systemic disease. If this is the case, your pet may also benefit from collaboration between our ophthalmology and other specialty departments to provide the complete picture of your pet's health.

YOUR PET'S FIRST VISIT

Ophthalmology appointments are available Tuesday through Friday. Once your appointment has been made, we will ask your referring veterinarian to send us a copy of your pet's medical records.

REMEMBER:

- Please bring all of your pet's medications with you to each visit.
- Please continue to treat your pet with his medications on the day of his appointment.

After your visit, the ophthalmologist will communicate her findings to your veterinarian so they may continue to assist you in treating your pet's ophthalmic condition.



YOUR PET'S APPOINTMENT

During your pet's appointment, the ophthalmology technician will check your pet's tear production and intraocular pressures. The ophthalmologist will examine the front of the eyes with special lights and magnification in an instrument called a biomicroscope. To examine the back of the eye (the fundus), the ophthalmologist uses indirect ophthalmoscopy which employs greater magnification with special lenses.



PUPIL DILATION

During your appointment, your pet's pupils may be dilated to allow for the best view possible of the optic nerve and retina. Pupil dilation lasts up to 4 to 6 hours and your pet will be light sensitive during that time period. You may expect your pet to squint in moderate to bright light until the pupils are able to constrict down again.

ADVANCED DIAGNOSTICS

If the ophthalmologist has any concerns about vision or other examination findings, she will discuss and advise additional diagnostic testing to help determine the most appropriate course of treatment for your pet's condition.

OCULAR ULTRASOUND

This diagnostic procedure generates computerized images of the orbit (eye socket) and structures of the eye using noninvasive sound waves, which aid in the diagnosis of conditions such as intraocular tumors, retrobulbar tumors, and retinal detachment, as well as showing the extent or depth of ocular lesions.

ELECTRORETINOGRAPHY

This diagnostic checks the neuroelectrical function of the retina. If the ophthalmologist cannot examine your pet's retina and optic nerve because the front of the eye is cloudy, this test may be necessary to determine your pet's retinal visual capabilities. Also, despite a normal appearance of the retina on examination, degenerative diseases such as Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA) or Sudden Acquired Retinal Degeneration Syndrome (SARDS) can lead to blindness. Sometimes an ERG is necessary to differentiate between the retina and the brain as cause of your pet's vision loss.

BIOPSY, HISTOPATHOLOGY, CYTOLOGY & CULTURE

Certain ocular, orbital, eyelid or tear duct conditions may require the ophthalmologist to sample abnormal tissues.

- Eyelid skin conditions or masses
- Ocular tumors
- Retrobulbar/orbital tumors
- Abscesses
- Corneal ulcers or inflammatory conditions
- Feline conjunctivitis

Sometimes these procedures must be done under light sedation or even general anesthesia to ensure your pet's comfort and safety. Other sampling techniques require a topical anesthetic eye drop only.

Call (802) 863-2387 to schedule an appointment or visit www.bevsvt.com for more referral information.