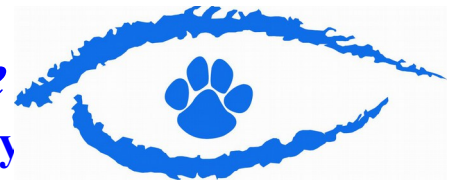


Animal Eye Care

Eye Examination Summary



1. **History:** discharge, squinting, redness, cloudiness, vision loss, medications
2. **Breed Predisposition**
3. Observe from a **distance:** squinting, cloudiness, redness, symmetry
4. **Close-up:** - **menace** response (cover each eye in turn), retropulsion of the globes
5. If mucky discharge present, or corneal or conjunctival disease suspected, a **Schirmer Tear Test** should then be performed before touching/stimulating the eye much. Similarly perform early in the examination for rechecks of dry eye. Place the bent paper strip 2/3 to 3/4 way along eyelid towards the lateral canthus for 1 minute. Normal is 15mm/min.
6. (Darkened room) **Focal light** examination: **PLR** (direct and consensual), eyelids, conjunctiva, cornea, lens/tapetal reflection. At this point you are trying to localise the lesion. A slit beam can help to locate the depth/position of a lesion (present on many ophthalmoscopes).
7. **Magnification** e.g. slit lamp, Lumiview (Welch Allyn), head loupe, head torch and 20D lens works well for magnification. Check eyelids (distichia, entropion, tumours), conjunctiva, cornea, iris, lens.
8. **Fundus examination:** indirect ophthalmoscopy (head torch or focal light, 20D lens), direct ophthalmoscopy (less useful – ophthalmoscope), panoptic.
9. **Fluorescein** staining: apply with dye impregnated strip – just touch onto conjunctiva once then flush with a few drops of artificial tears. Do not leave excess stain on the cornea.
10. **Fluorescein passage** through the tear duct. Apply slightly more stain than for corneal staining then a few drops of tears. Stain should be visible at the nostril within 5-10 mins.
11. **Tonometry:** applanation (Tonopen), Schiottz. For Schiottz tonometry have 3 people. Apply topical anaesthetic to the eye. One holding the animal, second holding the head – nose up. Vet lowers the footplate onto the cornea momentarily 4-5 times with the reading scale pointing to the nurse holding the head. Each time the needle flicks across the person reading the scale reads out the reading. Once 3-4 similar readings are called out, use these to read of the scale on the table to get IOP.
12. **Looking behind the third eyelid:** apply topical anaesthetic then grasp the third eyelid with a fine pair of mosquito forceps or move with smooth cilia forceps.

If you have any questions about eye cases, don't hesitate to contact us.

Animal Eye Care

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