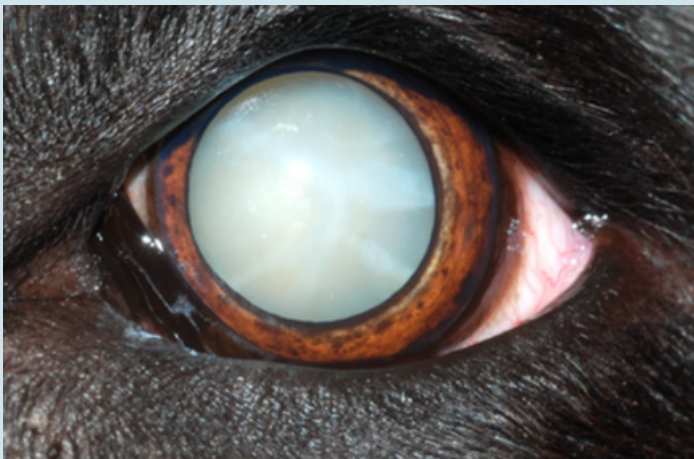


Understanding Cataracts

A cataract occurs when the lens inside the eye becomes cloudy, reducing vision. There are three primary causes of cataracts: age-related changes, genetics or inherited conditions, and diabetes mellitus.

Cataract surgery for pets mirrors the procedure used for humans. Our skilled veterinary ophthalmologists use advanced tools and techniques, employing a phacoemulsifier to remove cloudy cataracts. This minimizes incision size, speeds up recovery, and reduces the risk of surgery-induced astigmatism. A plastic replacement lens is then inserted to restore normal focus. While cataract surgery in pets requires general anesthesia, the success rate for restoring near-normal vision is high.



Evaluating Suitability for Cataract Surgery

Before embarking on cataract surgery, our experienced veterinary ophthalmologists will conduct a thorough evaluation of your pet's eye health. We perform testing to determine candidacy for surgery including an Electroretinogram, Ocular Ultrasound, and pre-anesthetic lab work.

Over 90% Success Rate

The potential for near-normal vision after cataract surgery is typically in the upper 90%. However, as with any medical procedure, there are inherent risks and complications which may include inflammation, bleeding in the eye, high intraocular pressure, retinal detachment, and/or corneal ulcers.



Post-Surgery Rechecks and Care

After cataract surgery, a series of rechecks are essential to monitor your pet's progress. These evaluations are typically scheduled at intervals of one day, one week, three weeks, six weeks, ten weeks, 16 weeks, and about eight months post-surgery. Medical therapy adjustments are based on findings during these examinations.

At home, your pet's care is equally important. Most pets require medications, primarily eye drops, 3-4 times a day during the initial weeks, with a gradual decrease over three months. Post-operative eye drops play a pivotal role in surgical success. While each patient's needs vary, our team is here to guide you through the care process. Remember, for the first two weeks, no bathing, swimming, or rough play is recommended.