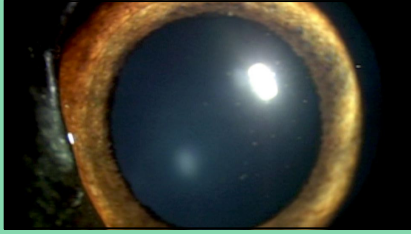
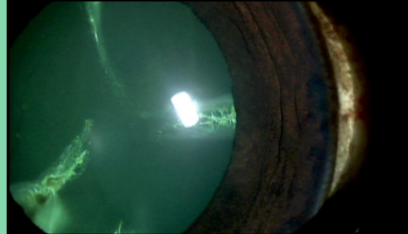


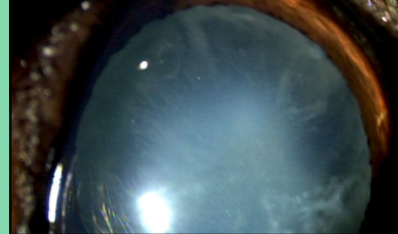
Cataract Surgery



Normal Lens



Damaged lens proteins



Cataract (or opaque area)



Cataract Progresses

What is a cataract?

A cataract is change in the clear protein of the lens.

1. Normally, the lens is transparent and clear. Allowing the image on which the eye is focused to be clearly projected onto the retina.
2. When the lens proteins are damaged or change, the lens becomes cloudy or opaque
3. The opaque area, or cataract, distorts the image projected onto the retina which results in a slightly blurred image.
4. As the cataract progresses, more and more of the lens is affected, which distorts the image further until vision problems occur.

** The rate of progression of cataracts is difficult to predict although in younger animals it tends to progress more rapidly. Cataracts can occur in one or both eyes and it is not uncommon for asymmetry of bilateral cataract development.**

Diabetics and Cataracts

- Most dogs with diabetes develop cataracts within 6—12 months of onset of the disease due to biochemical changes in the lens caused by elevated blood glucose levels
- Diabetic cataracts progress rapidly, causing blindness
- Surgical removal of the cataract restores vision, increases quality of life



Is your patient a candidate for cataract surgery?



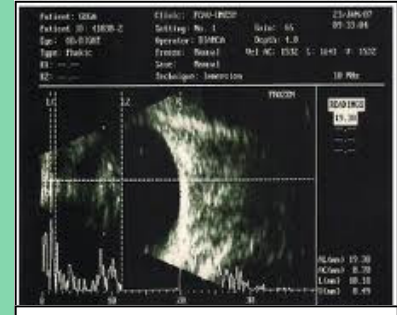
Thorough ocular exam



Treat active problems inside eye



Test Retinal Function (ERG)

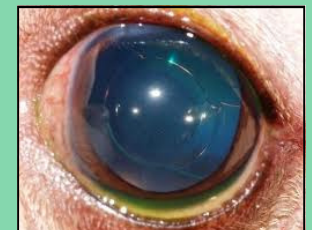
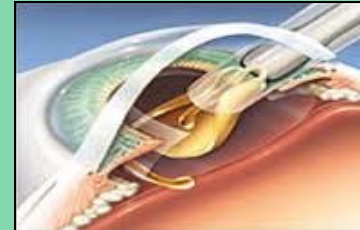
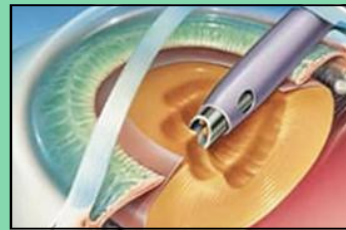
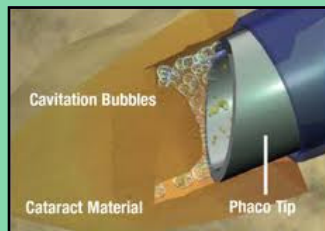


Screen for abnormalities with Ocular Ultrasound

What is the current treatment for Cataracts?

There is currently no commercially available medication for preventing or removing cataracts.

Removal of the cataract by **phacoemulsification surgery** is still the only present method of improving or restoring vision in a patient with cataracts.



What is the long-term prognosis after Cataract surgery?

There is a **90-95%** success rate of restoring vision in routine canine cataract surgery.