






**DAVIES**  
Veterinary Specialists

LEADING MULTI-SPECIALIST CARE

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## Eye specialist

### • What is an eye specialist?

There are varying levels of qualification for vets, a vet at your local practice may have a special interest and have some extra training, and the RCVS ran a certificate scheme to train GPs to a higher level.

To become a specialist requires 3-4 years of training with a mentor, publication of peer reviewed articles and finally exams. A list of RCVS recognized specialists in the UK is available on the RCVS website

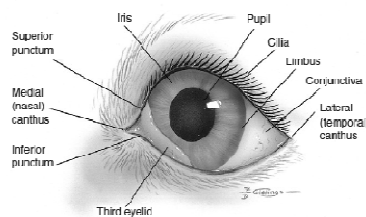
The BVA eye panellists are a group that have passed a further exam solely in identifying hereditary eye diseases in dogs, I am sure those of you involved in breeding are aware of the BVA/KC eye scheme and you can find more on the KC or BVA websites.

<http://www.rcvs.org.uk/education/specialist-status/rcvs-list-of-specialists/>  
<http://www.ecvo.org/diplomates/diplomate-list>  
<https://www.bva.co.uk/Canine-Health-Schemes/Find-an-eye-panellist/>



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## Anatomy of the eye



*Image from: Slatter's fundamentals of veterinary ophthalmology 5th Edn*



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## Flat-coated Retriever Breed Standard

### Head

- Long & nicely moulded
- Skull, flat & moderately broad with a slight stop between eyes, avoiding a down or dish-faced appearance.

### Eyes

- Medium size, dark brown or hazel, with a very intelligent expression (a round prominent eye highly undesirable).
- Not obliquely placed.



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## Hereditary eye conditions (BVA scheme)

- Schedule A:
  - Glaucoma (goniodysgenesis)
- Schedule B:
  - Progressive retinal atrophy



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## The Red Eye

### When should we worry?

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 DipECVO  
 RCVS and European Specialist in Veterinary  
 Ophthalmology



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## Causes of a red eye

- Conjunctivitis
- Dry eye
- Blepharitis
- Keratitis
  - Ulcerative
  - Non-ulcerative
- Uveitis
- Entropion
- Ectropion
- Distichiasis
- Ectopic cilium
- Orbital disease
- Glaucoma
- Cherry eye
- Kinked cartilage
- Foreign body
- Masses

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- The eye is red, but is it painful?
  - Tears
  - Squinting
  - Rubbing the eye
  - Sleeping more
  - Head-shy
  - Eating less
- When should I call my vet?
  - Redness for over 24 hours
  - Discharge from the eye
  - Clouding of the eye

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Photograph courtesy of Liz Branscombe RVN



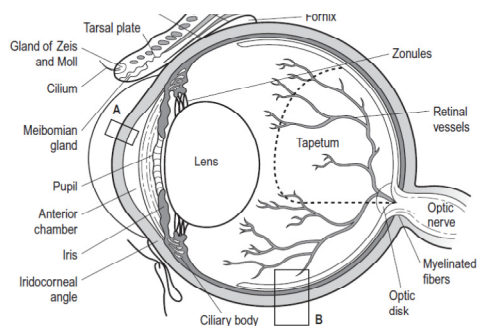
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Photograph courtesy of Liz Branscombe RVN

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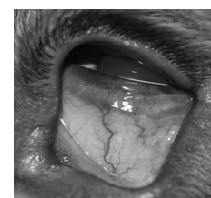
## Eyelids and conjunctiva



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## Conjunctivitis

- Young dogs
- Allergic
- Immune-mediated
- Infectious
  - Bacteria
  - Viruses
  - Parasites



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## Blepharitis

- Allergic
- Immune-mediated
- Infectious
  - Bacterial
  - Parasitic
- Neoplastic



## Cherry eye

- Young dogs
- Familial
- Surgery needed
- Gland produces tears
  - Secondary dry eye

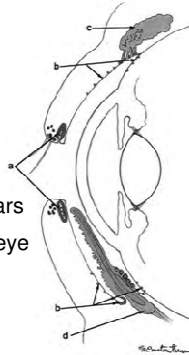


Image from Gelatt's Textbook of Veterinary Ophthalmology, 5th Edn

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## Does my dog need surgery?

- Eyelid disorders
  - Entropion
  - Ectropion
  - Distichiasis
- When do we operate?
  - Discomfort
  - Secondary corneal disease

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## Entropion

- What is entropion?
  - Inward rolling of the eyelid
  - Haired skin contacts the cornea
  - Irritation and damage to the cornea

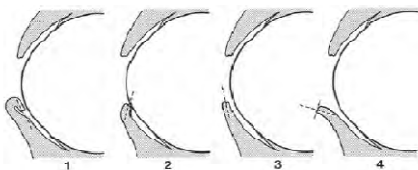


Image from Gelatt's Textbook of Veterinary Ophthalmology, 5th Edn

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## •What treatments are indicated?

- Tacking sutures – temporary solution
- Surgical correction
  - Evert the eyelid margin
  - Shorten an overlong eyelid

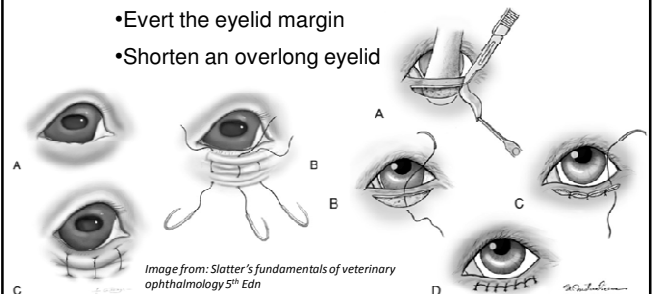


Image from: Slatter's fundamentals of veterinary ophthalmology 5th Edn

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## Ectropion

- What is ectropion?
  - Eyelid falls outward
  - Creates a pocket which gathers debris
- Medial canthal pocket syndrome
- What treatments are indicated?
  - Surgical correction
    - V to Y plasty
    - Shortening of overlong eyelid

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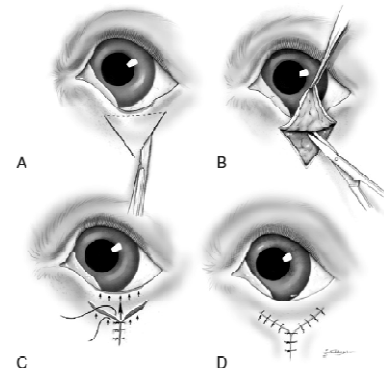
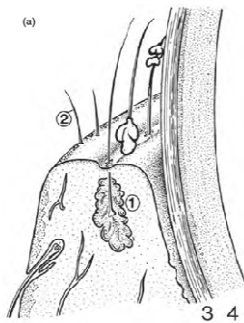


Image from: Slatter's fundamentals of veterinary ophthalmology 5th Edn

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## Distichiasis



- Typically younger dogs
- Tears
- Increased blinking
- Sometimes visible hairs

Image from Gelatt's Textbook of Veterinary Ophthalmology, 5th Edn

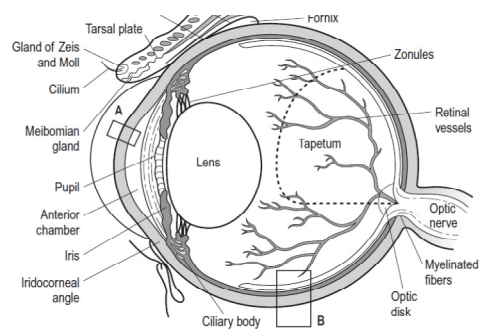
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## Ectopic cilium

- Young dogs
- Recurrent discomfort
  - Tears
  - Increased blinking
  - Holding eye shut
- Corneal ulcer that won't heal

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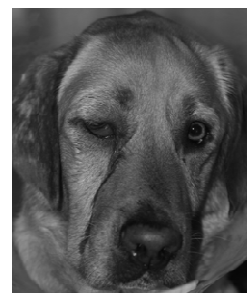
## Orbit and Globe



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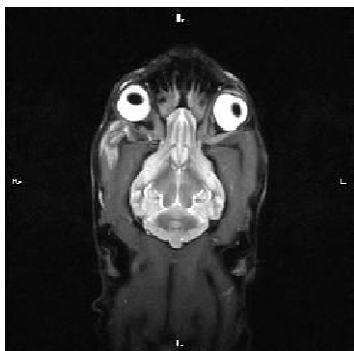
## Orbital disease

- Foreign body
  - Stick
  - Grass seed
- Tooth root abscess
- Cellulitis
  - Inflammation
  - Infection
- Myositis



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## MRI Scan

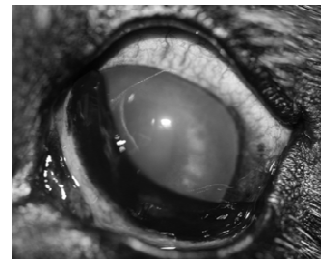


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## Glaucoma

- Primary
  - Goniodysgenesis
- Secondary
  - Inflammation
  - Neoplastic

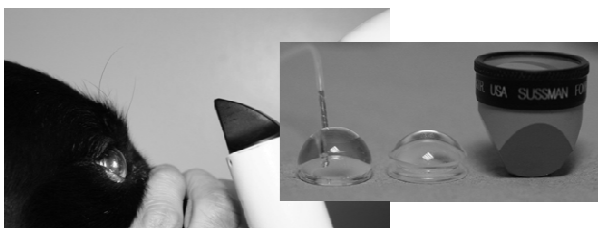
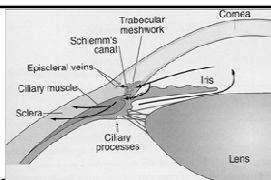


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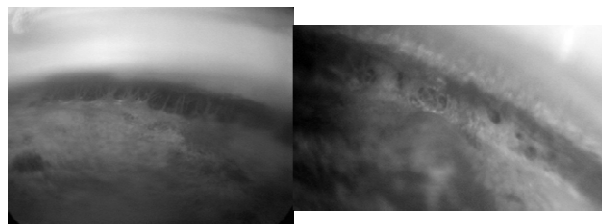
## Gonioscopy

- Specialist technique
- Observe opening of 'angle'
- Recommended every 3 years



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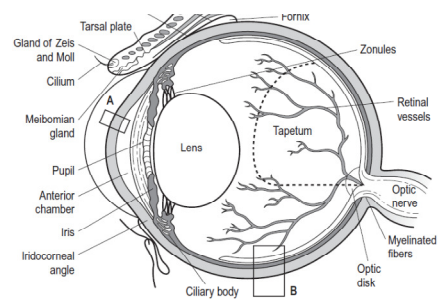
## AHT project

- See latest update on breed club website

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## Cornea

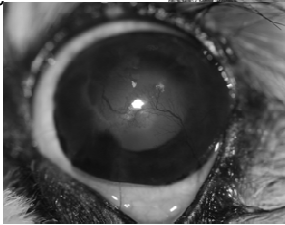
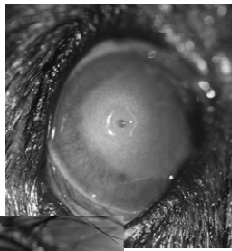


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## Keratitis

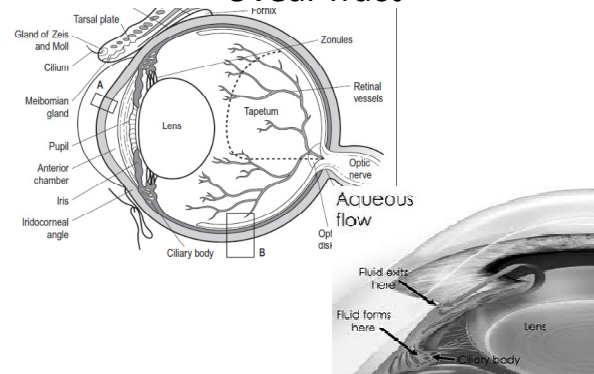
- Ulcerative
- Immune-mediated
- Infectious
- Neoplastic



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## Uveal Tract

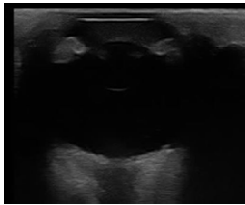
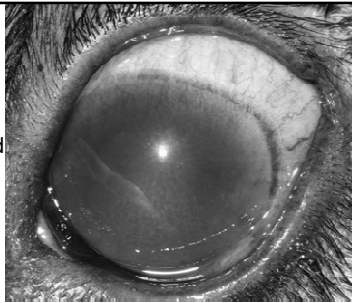


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## Uveitis

- Traumatic
- Immune-mediated
- Infectious
- Neoplastic



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