



Happy Pet Eyes

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Glaucoma in Pets

A Happy Pet Eyes Guide for Pet Owners

At Happy Pet Eyes, we understand how frightening a glaucoma diagnosis can feel. Our goal is to help you understand what glaucoma is, how it affects your pet, and how we work together to protect comfort and quality of life.

What Is Glaucoma?

Glaucoma occurs when pressure inside the eye becomes too high. This pressure is painful and can damage the optic nerve—the structure responsible for vision. Without prompt treatment, glaucoma can lead to sudden or permanent blindness. While there is no cure, treatment can lower pressure and keep your pet comfortable.

How Is Glaucoma Diagnosed?

Diagnosis is made during a comprehensive eye exam and includes:

- Measuring intraocular pressure (IOP)
- Evaluating the front and inside of the eye
- Assessing vision and comfort

Additional testing may be recommended to determine glaucoma type and severity.

How Is Glaucoma Treated?

Acute (Sudden) Glaucoma

- Rapid pressure rise and significant pain
- Immediate medications to lower pressure
- Close rechecks within days

- Surgery may be discussed if pressure remains high

Chronic (Long-Term) Glaucoma

- Pressure elevated over time
- Vision often reduced or lost
- Medications focus on pressure and pain control
- Comfort procedures may be recommended if pain persists

Glaucoma With Permanent Blindness

When vision cannot be restored, treatment focuses on eliminating pain and maintaining quality of life. Comfort procedures can prevent the need for lifelong medications.

Why Treat the Other Eye?

Glaucoma commonly affects both eyes over time. Preventive medication in the unaffected eye may delay onset or reduce severity, though it cannot fully prevent the disease.

Signs to Watch For

Contact us promptly if you notice:

- Squinting or keeping the eye closed
- Redness or swelling
- Cloudy or blue appearance
- Enlarged eye