

Entropion

Entropion is an eyelid disease in which all, or part of the eyelid margins are inverted, such that the outer skin contuses the corneal surface. This may in some patients be associated with corneal erosion or ulceration. The condition tends to occur in one or both eyes of many breeds and is presumed to be due to hereditary factors. Some dogs present with four lids affected (often Shar Pei and Chow Chow), although most standard and large breed dogs present with lower lateral entropion. In some dogs concurrent Dry Eye Disease (also known as Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca) may worsen the rubbing of the hairs (trichiasis) on the cornea.

While heredity may be a predisposing cause in cats, recovery from infectious disease may be equally important. Most cats are affected by lower lateral entropion and most affected cats are middle aged or older (seniors).

The condition is obviously painful and is readily diagnosed by clinical signs and the presence of tearing, squinting and evidence of self-trauma (pawing at the eyes). Fortunately several surgical procedures have been described to correct entropion. Success is promptly apparent and many veterinarians are available to provide diagnosis and treatment.