

Rowe Referrals

The Veterinary Hospital

Bradley House, Ferndene

Bristol, BS32 9DT

Telephone 01454 521000

Fax 01454 521001

referrals@rowevetgroup.com

www.rowereferrals.co.uk

The Eye Clinic

eyeclinic@rowevetgroup.com

eyes@rowevetgroup.com

Rowe

Referrals

Cataract *opacity of the lens*



 Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/roweeyeclinic

www.facebook.com/roweveterinaryreferrals



Cataract

opacity of the lens

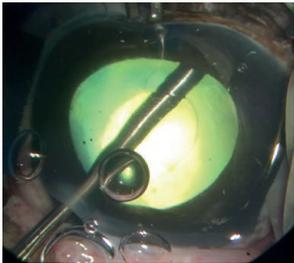
What is a cataract?

A cataract is an opacity of the lens which prevents light from entering the eye, often resulting in blindness.



Why does it occur?

There are several reasons for the development of cataracts. One of the most common is diabetes, followed by hereditary (genetic) cataracts, cataracts secondary to trauma, intraocular inflammation, other primary diseases of the retina, etc.



Can both eyes be affected?

Yes, more often than not we see cataracts in both eyes, but not necessarily equally progressed. However, cataracts affecting only one eye are also possible.

Are any breeds predisposed?

Whereas any breed can be affected, we can commonly see cataracts in the Bichon Frise, Spaniels, Boston Terriers, Labrador Retrievers, and French Bulldogs.

What treatment options do I have?

Unfortunately the only treatment for cataracts, which are progressive and/or blinding, is cataract surgery. Early or immature cataracts may only require close monitoring for progression.

What do I need to expect if I agree to have cataract surgery done?

Cataract surgery is a highly complex type of surgery, which requires pre-operative investigations, good pet and owner compliance and is a life-long commitment, as long-term treatment is usually required. At our practice, we hospitalise pets undergoing cataract surgery, as the first few days after the surgery require close monitoring and intensive medical treatment. After discharge from hospital, we expect to see our patients back 5-6 times during the first 3 months. Once stable after surgery we advise six-monthly check-ups life-long.

What are the chances of success?

Cataract surgery is expected to be successful in 80-90% of cases. Unfortunately, there is never any guarantee of success for each individual case and despite best efforts, some dogs undergoing cataract surgery may still end up blind or requiring surgical removal of the eye.

What happens if I do nothing?

If left untreated, cataracts cause intraocular inflammation, which usually results in irreversible blindness and/or loss of the eye.

If you have any further questions regarding this or any other condition feel free to contact us.