



Frequently Asked Questions

Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital Ophthalmology Department

Ophthalmology Normal Business Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am- 4:30pm

Highland Heights: (216) 201-9841 | eyesleveland@metropolitanvet.com

Akron/Copley: (330) 664-6508 | eyesakron@metropolitanvet.com

Emergency Service: 24/7/365

Highland Heights: (440) 673-3483

Akron/Copley: (330) 666-2976

What do I do if I need a refill of medication?

We do not refill medications on the weekends. We can refill medications Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm. We do ask that if your pet needs a medication refilled, you give us up to 48-hrs to process the refill request. We can call in most medications to local human pharmacies, there are some medications that are made for pets only. We carry some of these medications in the hospital or can have some medications filled with our preferred compounding pharmacy, Stokes based out of New Jersey. (If we have elected to fill your medications with Stokes their phone number is (1- 800-754-5222))

Does it matter what order to give medications?

When giving eye drops together, please wait 5 minutes between drops. When administering ointment medications please give last if given with eye drops. Other than giving ointments last it does not matter what order you give the eyedrops in.

Frequently Asked Post-Op Questions

Things to look out for after my pet has had cataract surgery:

- ❖ Increased redness
- ❖ Squinting (if squinting outside please bring inside and monitor, after surgery some patients are light sensitive to the sun)
- ❖ Keeping the eye closed and will not open it
- ❖ Cloudy eyes
- ❖ Sudden vision loss
- ❖ Not eating or drinking
- ❖ Seeming dull or depressed

If these things happen, please reach out to the Ophthalmology or Emergency services.

Things to look out for after enucleation:

- ❖ Small amounts of bleeding are normal the first few days after enucleation
- ❖ There may be small amounts of blood coming out of one or both nostrils
- ❖ The area around may be swollen for a while
- ❖ If you feel like there is a concerning amount of blood coming from either the incision or the nose, please apply an ice pack to the area for 10 minutes if tolerated.

If this happens, please reach out to the Ophthalmology or Emergency services.



Things to look out for if my pet had a conjunctival graft:

- ❖ A large amount of discharge is expected from the eye
- ❖ Squinting or keeping the eye completely shut
- ❖ Rubbing (all pets should be wearing their cones after surgery)
- ❖ Graft appears to be lifting off the eye
- ❖ If graft appears white rather than pink

If these things happen, please reach out to the Ophthalmology or Emergency services.

Things to look out for if my pet has glaucoma:

- ❖ Increased redness
- ❖ Squinting or keeping the eye completely shut
- ❖ Keeping the eye(s) closed
- ❖ Not eating or drinking
- ❖ Seeming dull or depressed
- ❖ Can no longer see

If these things happen, please reach out to the Ophthalmology or Emergency services.

Things that are NORMAL after my pet has had a Diamond Burr debridement:

- ❖ Eye looking bloody (the contact lens traps a small amount of blood under it)
- ❖ Contact falling out - even the same day (This is not an issue. If you find the contact lens, please discard it in the trash)
- ❖ One pupil is bigger than the other, we give most patients a drop of Atropine to help with pain following the debridement this medication causes the pupil to become dilated or larger and can last for up to one week

When will my pet have a bowel movement following surgery?

It is normal for your pet to not have a bowel movement for 1-3 days following surgery. This is due to the combination of fasting, anesthesia, and medications that may have been sent home with your pet. Please call our office if your pet is straining to defecate or has not had a bowel movement for 5 days.

What if my pet has diarrhea following surgery or while on oral medications?

Some amount of diarrhea can be a common side effect for some pets due to stress of being in the hospital and change in their daily routine. Please call our office if your pet has diarrhea lasting more than 48hrs after being sent home or if your pet seems to be having an excessive amount of diarrhea.

What should I do if my pet is not interested in eating or drinking following surgery or while taking oral medications?

Try not to worry. No one likes to be forced to eat when they are not feeling well. If your pet received IV fluids while in hospital, it is likely that he/she is well hydrated. If your pet is not interested in their normal food, you can offer boiled boneless/skinless chicken breast or boiled hamburger and rice.



How long should I give the medications for?

It is important to finish all medications as prescribed. Please follow all the directions on your discharges from the last visit. It is very important to finish all antibiotics and steroids as written by your pet's ophthalmologist. If you are going to run out of medications before your next visit and Your pet's ophthalmologist has not recommended to stop the medications, please call us to get a refill. Some eye and oral medications cannot be stopped without tapering the dose down.

How can I tell if my pet is uncomfortable?

Interpreting signs of pain in animals is a challenge. Some common things to watch for are vocalizing, difficulties finding positions to rest in, restlessness, anxiety, disinterest in attention or affection, lack of enthusiasm for food or treats.

How can I tell if my pet's eye is uncomfortable?

If your pet is holding one or both eyes closed. If your pet is constantly pawing at their eyes or rubbing on you or furniture. Some pets will stop eating if they are uncomfortable. Hiding from family members is also a sign of pain or discomfort. If you feel like your pet is painful or uncomfortable, please reach out to our office or the emergency department.

How do I care for the incision?

There is no need to apply antibiotic ointment or other medications to skin incisions unless directed by your pet's ophthalmologist. Monitor the area for redness, swelling, discharge or odors. If these things develop, please call our office.

For additional questions, please contact our office:

Cleveland East:

Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm

eyesleveland@metropolitanvet.com

(216) 201-9841 – Ophthalmology Direct Line

(440) 673-3483 – 24/7 Metro Emergency Service

Akron/Copley:

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:30pm

eyesakron@metropolitanvet.com

(330) 664-6508– Ophthalmology Direct Line

(330) 666-2976 – 24/7 Metro Emergency Service

What if I have questions after the ophthalmology service has closed for the day?

You are welcome to leave a voicemail, or send us an email, and a member of our ophthalmology team will get back to you by the end of the next business day. **If your pet is experiencing an emergency, please contact Metropolitan Veterinary Hospital Emergency Service or take your pet to the nearest emergency veterinary clinic.**