



Always consult with a veterinarian that you feel comfortable with before diagnosing or treating any disease on your own. This information is for reference only.

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Iris Cyst

Issue Description

A small hollow structure either attached to the iris of the eye or floating free in the anterior chamber. An iris cyst is composed of a single cell layer of epithelium and is filled with fluid. It is most commonly seen as secondary to inflammation in the eye, especially with glaucoma.

Other Names

Uveal Cyst

Breeds Affected

Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, and Boston Terriers are the most commonly affected breeds.

Symptoms

Iris cysts usually cause no symptoms, but in large numbers they can cause glaucoma by obstructing the drainage angle of the eye.

Diagnosis

Iris cysts need to be differentiated from iris melanoma, a tumor, by demonstrating their hollowness.

Treatment

A light directed at an iris cyst will cause it to transilluminate. Iris cysts can be collapsed if necessary by a veterinarian with a small needle carefully introduced into the anterior chamber. The cysts may also be destroyed by use of a semiconductor diode laser.

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