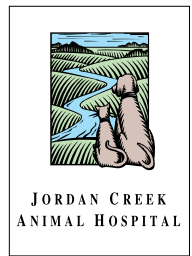




FALL 2016 Gazette

☞ newsletter for people and their pets



JORDAN CREEK
ANIMAL HOSPITAL

3401 E.P. True Parkway
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265

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My Puppy's Painful Eye

Imagine you are now the proud owner of your family's latest addition, a roly-poly, bundle of joy, Chinese Shar-Pei puppy. Now when we say ROLY-poly, we mean roly. All of those rolls of puppy chub are not only adorable on that little face, but unfortunately, can pose a potential hazard for your new little friend.

Entropion is an uncomfortable and painful condition in which an animal's eyelids roll inward, allowing the eyelashes (and/or other facial hair) to rub against the eye's cornea and irritate it. The upper and/or lower eyelids can be involved, and the condition can occur in one or both eyes.

Causes

Genetics: While any dog can have entropion, there is often a genetic factor. When caused by genetics, entropion can be seen well before a puppy's first birthday. Certain breeds are predisposed to this condition and should be monitored for entropion. These include: Chinese Shar-Pei, Boxer, Chow Chow, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Cocker Spaniel, English Bulldog, Great Dane, Pug, Labrador Retriever, Golden Retriever, Bullmastiff, Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Irish Setter, Poodle, Springer Spaniel, and St. Bernard.

Breeding for certain traits (including skull shape, facial skin folds, and prominent eyes) is thought to be a contributing factor to genetic cases of entropion. It is most likely not the only genetic base, however.

Acquired: Entropion can also occur as a secondary condition to an already existing problem. This problem list may include scarring of the eyelid, infection of the eye, corneal spasms, corneal pain or ulcers, trauma, or nerve damage. If any of these issues arise with your pet, start monitoring for the development of entropion.

Signs/Symptoms

An animal with entropion will squint and have an excessive amount of tears or discharge coming from the affected eye. Some animals will be sensitive to light and will rub at their eyes, particularly when they are outside. Some animals will produce a mucus-like discharge from the eye. Some of these symptoms, such as squinting and rubbing at the eyes, are signs of pain/discomfort and are red flags that your pet should be seen by your veterinarian right away.

Diagnosis by your Veterinarian

Your veterinarian can diagnose entropion with a simple eye exam. A local anesthetic applied to the eye is often used to make the examination easier on your pet. You may also observe your veterinarian perform a fluorescein dye test on the

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affected eye. The fluorescein dye will stick to damaged parts of the cornea and show as a bright green area. It is important to determine whether or not there is a corneal ulcer secondary to the entropion condition, and to treat it with the appropriate eye drops or ointment.

Treatment

To fix an eyelid affected with entropion, surgery is needed:

Blepharoplasty: If the entropion is significant enough to warrant treatment, the excess skin of the outer lids can be removed, and the eyelids tightened, in a permanent corrective surgery called blepharoplasty. Typically entropion does not return after surgery, unless the case is quite severe.

Temporary Tarsorrhaphy: Permanent surgery like blepharoplasty is not typically done in puppies under six months of age. At this age, it is impossible to predict what the adult head conformation and size will be, so permanent surgery is not warranted quite yet. Instead, puppies generally have a minor procedure called a temporary tarsorrhaphy, also called eyelid tacking. With eyelid tacking, temporary sutures are used to



roll the eyelids outward. This keeps the eyes healthy until the puppy matures and grows into his adult facial features.

Special note: The eyelid tacking procedure may need to be performed more than once to keep up with your puppy's growth until the permanent surgery can be performed.

If your pet has a secondary issue such as a corneal ulcer, it too will require treatment. Untreated corneal ulcers may scar excessively, impairing vision. Treatment usually involves the use of an antibiotic eye ointment.

Prognosis

The prognosis is often excellent if surgery is performed before the cornea is damaged.

If you have any concern of entropion in your new pudgy pup, all of us here at Jordan Creek Animal Hospital are ready to help get your furry friend feeling comfortable again.

Chip on Their Shoulder

If your pet was lost, what are the chances you would be reunited? What kind of identification does your pet have? Many of us have come across a lost pet with no identification and find ourselves searching for clues to lead this pet home.

A microchip implant may be the answer to put worried pet parents at ease. We do not know when our dog might escape from the fenced yard or our cat might slip out of the door the repairman left open. Natural disasters and emergencies are another reason to have your pet microchipped. If your pet has a microchip, there is a greater chance you will be reunited with your pet, should you become separated.

What is it? The microchip itself is about the size of a grain of rice and is inserted under the skin between the shoulder blades with a syringe. Ideally this is done during a procedure that requires anesthesia like a spay, neuter, or dentistry. However, it is not necessary for your pet to be anesthetized, and microchipping can be done at any appointment.

Once your pet is microchipped, it is important for you to register the microchip and keep it updated with your current contact information. At Jordan Creek Animal Hospital, we use HomeAgain microchips. Other than the initial fee to have the chip implanted, HomeAgain does not require any additional cost to keep the mi-

crochip active for the entire life of your pet.

In order to keep your pet safe, please consider having your pet microchipped if he or she is not already. If you would like to check to see if your pet is microchipped, stop by our hospital and we can scan for an ID number. To find out more about Home Again, visit their website www.HomeAgain.com.





Monthly Meetings

The doctors and staff at Jordan Creek Animal Hospital think that monthly employee meetings are essential to promoting communication and educational opportunities. Because of this, we will be closed from 1:30-2:30 PM on the following Wednesdays: **October 19, November 16, and December 14.**



Please join us in welcoming Katherine (Kat) to Jordan Creek as a Veterinary Assistant! Kat was born and raised in the Chicago area and is a first-generation Polish-American. Kat speaks Polish fluently! She attended Iowa State University and graduated in 2014 with a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science. She went on to work at a veterinary clinic in Iowa City and at the University of Iowa as an Animal Caretaker. Kat is happy to return to the Des Moines area with her boyfriend, Will. Together they have a cat named Twilight and a dog named Tavi.

*A heartfelt farewell to Diana,
and a big warm welcome to Madison!*



As the end of the summer grew near, Diana, our long time Kennel Manager, informed us that she received an offer she could not turn down. She accepted a position with a clinic that is less than 5 minutes away from her acreage in Stuart, Iowa. Diana was with JCAH for almost 14 years, and in those many years, she drove over 40 minutes to and from work every day. Diana made many great friends, both four and two legged, while at JCAH! We were sad to see her go; however, we wish her well on her new adventure much closer to home! We had to find someone, and not just anyone, to fill her shoes. They say with great change comes great opportunity. After an exhaustive search, we welcome Madison Brown as our new Kennel Manager.



Madison is a graduate of Iowa State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Ecology, Pre-Vet, and Wildlife Care, and a Minor in Animal Science. Madison worked at the Iowa State University Horse Barn for two years, interned at the Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation in San Antonio, Texas, and volunteered for three years at the Wildlife Care Clinic in Ames. Prior to JCAH, Madison was a supervisor at Hormel in Algona, Iowa, but recently relocated to the Des Moines area with her husband, Justen.

Madison enjoys spending time with family, baking, shopping, kayaking, and fishing. Madison has a cat named Chester, two guinea pigs, Frank and Hank, three fish, and four snails.

We are excited to have Madison join the JCAH family!



Congratulations! One of our long time technicians, Claudia, and her husband, Tim, welcomed Remington Lawrence into their family September 20th!

UPDATE: Pain Today, Gone Tomorrow!

As mentioned in our last Pet Gazette issue, Galliprant is going to hit the market this October! The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently announced the approval of this new drug, which is intended to control pain and inflammation associated with osteoarthritis in dogs.

Osteoarthritis is a medical condition where cartilage - the protective material that cushions a joint - breaks down over time, causing the bones of the joint to rub against each other. This rubbing can permanently damage the joint and cause pain, inflammation, and lameness. Older and overweight dogs are at higher risk of developing osteoarthritis. What does an arthritic dog look like?

Signs of Arthritis in Dogs

- ❧ *Stiffness-Usually worst when first getting up from sleeping.*
- ❧ *Difficulty climbing stairs, getting up onto furniture, or getting into a car.*
- ❧ *Reluctance to walk as far as before.*
- ❧ *Lameness and/or limping.*
- ❧ *Seeming withdrawn and/or spending less time playing than usual.*

Galliprant is a new spin on the drug class of non-steroidal anti-inflammatories. It is designed to work well against pain and inflammation while avoiding some common adverse side effects you can see with our currently used, routine non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications.

All non-steroidal anti-inflammatories carry certain risks depending on the canine patient. That is why these drugs, including Galliprant, must be prescribed by a licensed veterinarian who can provide the professional expertise needed to diagnose and provide guidance in the control of osteoarthritic pain.

MEET THE STAFF/our editors for this issue of Pet Gazette



Dr. Cody Mingus was born in Falls City, Nebraska. She attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, receiving her Bachelor of Science Degree in Veterinary Science in 2006. She enrolled in veterinary school at Iowa State University and received her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine in 2010. After practicing at a pet hospital in Rochester, Minnesota, she joined the staff at Jordan Creek Animal Hospital in 2012.

Dr. Mingus and her husband Zach, are parents of one fabulous daughter, Emree. They are also the parents of two dogs, Gus and Stewy, and one cat, Noodle. She enjoys spending any free time with her daughter and pets, but also camping, attending outdoor concerts, and watching movies at home.



Holly Williams was born and raised in Des Moines, Iowa. She has received both an Associate Degree in Graphic Arts from DMACC and a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration from Upper Iowa University. Prior to joining the staff of Jordan Creek Animal Hospital in July 2012, she gained vast experience working with animals in hospital, rescue, and boarding settings. She is particularly interested in dog behavior and training as well as promoting pet adoption.

Holly shares her home with her dog, Jax, a Border Collie. When she isn't busy with work, she enjoys volunteering on behalf of adoptable pets, going on walks, baking, reading, and finding deals at thrift stores.