

# ENTROPION

## What is an entropion?

Entropion is the in-turning of an eyelid.

## What are the signs of entropion?

Usually the affected eye is painful and you may see increased blinking and tear production. The eyelid hairs are in direct contact with the cornea (surface of the eye) and the continual rubbing can create secondary erosion (see Factsheet on corneal ulceration). The white of the eye may appear red and the condition is often accompanied with conjunctivitis.

## Can entropion be treated without surgery?

Some cases of entropion are caused by another disease and we call this secondary entropion or spastic entropion. The painful eye may be retracted into the socket causing the eyelids roll inwards. Careful examination of the eyelids and the eye will allow us to determine if the entropion is the result of another disease, and in these cases medical treatment with topical drops may alleviate the discomfort, breaking the cycle, and therefore reversing the entropion.

## How do we treat entropion?

Most cases of entropion require surgery to prevent the eyelid from rolling inwards. Temporary sutures (stitches) can be used in puppies, but adult dogs may require the removal of a small piece of skin under general anaesthesia. Most patients are admitted on the morning of surgery and are ready to go home that afternoon. Small self-dissolving sutures are placed to help the skin heal correctly and a post-operative re-examination is arranged within one month of the operation.

