

PIGMENTARY CONDITIONS OF THE EYE

Thank you

On behalf of the Melbourne EyeVet team, Chloe and Anu would like to thank you for referring your patients to us during our first 6 months. It has been a very busy time and we are proud to say the our new clinic is now fully operational.

Location

Melbourne EyeVet is located at 9-11 Miles St, Mulgrave 3701. Check out <http://www.melbourneeyevet.com.au/contact-us.html> for out clinics we service.

Hours

Melbourne EyeVet is now open Monday to Friday 8:30am-5:30pm. We are not open on the weekends but a specialist is available on call for emergencies.

Contact Us

Ph:
1800 393 838 or 85320020

Email:
info@melbourneeyevet.com.au

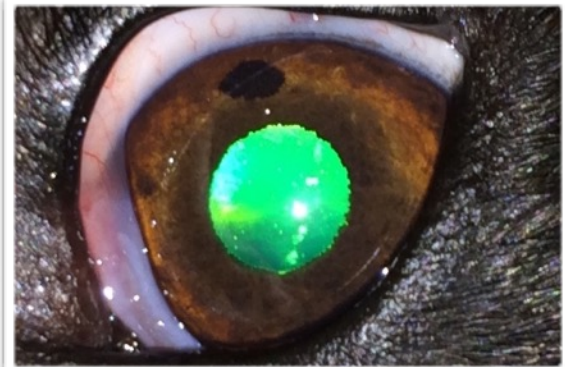
Website:
www.melbourneeyevet.com.au

Iris Melanoma vs Iris Freckles vs Ocular Melanosis

These are three different syndromes that can result in pigmentation of the iris. Only iris melanomas are neoplastic.

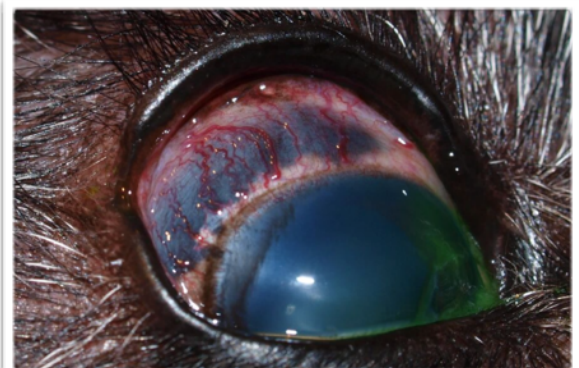
Iris Freckles

Iris freckles are non-neoplastic lesions seen in the iris. Usually they do not alter the iris structure. Although "freckles" may undergo malignant transformation, it is very rare in dogs



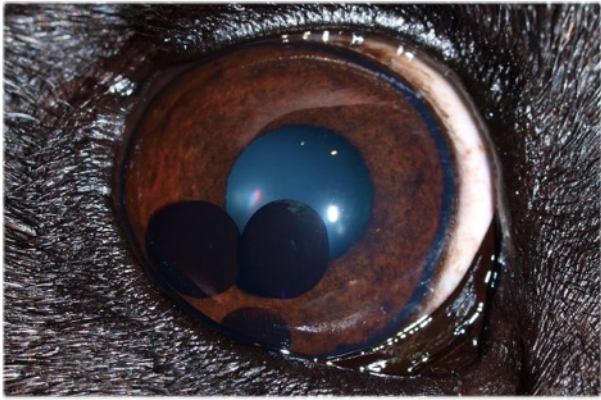
Ocular Melanosis

Ocular melanosis is a breed related syndrome seen in the Cairn Terrier, Boxer and Labrador. Often the iris will appear thickened and can infiltrate the drainage angle leading to glaucoma. Careful examination of the iris, drainage angle, perilimbal zone of the sclera and retina is required. When diffuse melanocytic dispersion is present it can simulate iris melanoma.



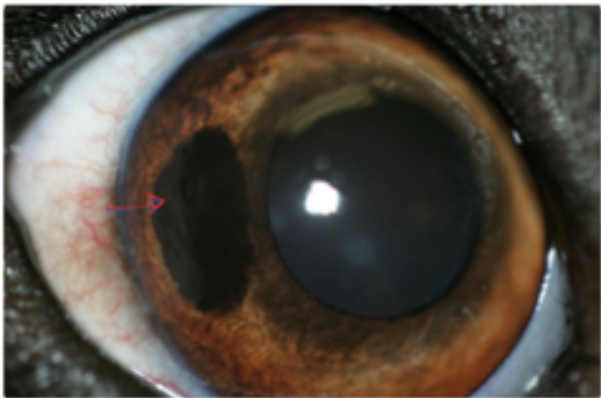
Iris cysts

Iris cysts are well-circumscribed, fluid-filled structures that are often free-floating in the anterior chamber. The cystic wall is thin and can often allow light to shine through them. They can be singular or in groups. Although they are benign, if they are large, cysts can affect vision or obstruct the drainage of aqueous within the eye, leading to glaucoma. Treatment of complicated iris cysts requires laser therapy to rupture the cyst or intraocular surgical removal.



Iris tumours

Iris tumours should be suspected in an eye with unilateral uveitis or hyphaema in which there is no history of trauma. Adenocarcinoma and melanoma are the most common primary neoplasms of the iris in dogs. Iris melanomas tend to occur in middle-aged dogs. Breeds commonly affected are German Shepherds and Labradors. Melanomas tend to be nodular outward growths involving the iris and ciliary body compared to flat pigmentation as seen in this photo of an iris freckle. Be aware that any ocular neoplasm can be pigmented or non-pigmented and can result in secondary uveitis or glaucoma. If treated early, it may be possible to salvage the eye by removing the mass or, in cases of ocular lymphoma, with systemic chemotherapy. In aggressive primary tumours, enucleation can be curative, however, malignant melanoma can metastasise early so histopathology of enucleated globes is always recommended.



Limbal Melanocytomas

Limbal melanocytomas are another form of ocular neoplasia that are relatively common in dogs. They typically form on the limbal margin, between the cornea and sclera, and invade adjacent structures. These masses are generally superficial though they can penetrate into deeper tissues, making surgical excision difficult. If treated early, these histologically benign masses can be cured with a combination of surgery and cryotherapy. Masses with marked intraocular invasion, however, may require enucleation due to secondary complications and therefore early referral is recommended.

