

Original

Thank you for your interest in our study into the effects of general anaesthesia on pre and post operative intraocular pressure on surgical patients.

The aim of our study is to find out if general anaesthesia causes changes to the pressure inside the eyeball (known as intraocular pressure), of canine patients.

Your dog is here for routine surgery today and will be given an intravenous anaesthetic agent called propofol. This will be given through a cannula placed in your dog's foreleg. The anaesthetic will then be maintained via a breathing tube, gently placed in your dog's throat, through which will be delivered oxygen and an anaesthetic gas called isoflurane. Your dog will be closely monitored before, during and after the anaesthetic period by a registered veterinary nurse.

We are interested to see if there are any changes to the pressure inside the eyes of dogs during their anaesthetic period to allow us to ensure we are providing the best care and using the best techniques possible while anaesthetising patients. Sometimes sudden changes in eye pressure can occur which can cause sight problems and discomfort. We want to discover if dogs eye pressures are affected during the anaesthesia protocol we use.

To measure eye pressure, we use a device called a Tonopen. It is a small, hand-held machine, that very delicately touches the surface of the eye and calculates the pressure. This is a non painful, non invasive technique and is only carried out by a veterinary surgeon or registered veterinary nurse.

If your dog is not able to tolerate the procedure or is head shy, we will not attempt to take the eye pressure reading. The first reading will be taken with you present when you bring your dog in for the admit appointment on the morning of their surgery.

We do not anticipate any risks to dogs having this procedure done, it is something we carry out regularly on our patients. If your pet is nervous or head shy they could become distressed having their eye pressure checked, we would not proceed with the testing if this were the case. Your dog's anaesthetic time will not be any longer if you agree to participate in this study.

If we do detect any pressure changes in your dog's eyes during the anaesthetic period that are likely to cause any problems, we will inform you and discuss any treatment that could be required. We will also inform you if your dog's eye pressures are normal and unchanged throughout the procedure.

Please be assured that if you do not wish to participate in this study, it will not alter the usual high standard of care that we will give to your dog throughout their stay with us today and you will not be treated any differently. It is entirely your choice and we appreciate you taking the time to read this information sheet, whether you decide to participate in the study or not.

If you have agreed to take part in the study but change your mind later, please let us know and your pet's details will be removed from the study.

Your details will be anonymised as part of the study and each patient taking part will be assigned a unique number. None of your personal details will be shared with others as part of this study. The study may be published within the veterinary industry press, again no personal details will be published or stored. If you wish to be contacted with the results of the study, please tick the corresponding box on the study consent form.

Lay Language Edit

Thank you for your interest in our research project.

The aim of our study is to find out how having a general anaesthetic affects the pressure inside dogs' eyes.

Changes in eye pressure can sometimes occur during anaesthetics which can cause sight problems and discomfort. We want to find out if dogs' eye pressures are affected with the anaesthetics we use here at Sunnyside Vets: a standard anaesthetic injection called propofol; and a gas that is breathed in called isoflurane.



To measure eye pressure, we use a device called a Tonopen. It is a small, hand-held device, about the size of a marker pen, that very gently touches the surface of the eye and measures the pressure inside. It doesn't hurt or cause any damage to the eye, and is only carried out by a vet or registered veterinary nurse.

If your dog doesn't like having their head touched, or shows any signs of being unhappy with the procedure, we will not attempt to take the eye pressure reading. The first reading will be taken when you bring your dog in on the morning of their surgery, so you can see what it looks like; and we would then like to repeat the reading every x minutes while they are under anaesthetic and after they wake up after their operation.

If we do detect any pressure changes in your dog's eyes during the anaesthetic, we will let you know, and discuss any actions that could be required.

Please be assured that if you do not wish your dog to participate in this study, it will not alter the usual high standard of care that we will give to your dog throughout their stay with us today and you will not be treated any differently. It is entirely your choice and we appreciate you taking the time to read this information sheet, whether you decide to participate in the study or not. If you agree to take part in the study but change your mind later, please let us know and your pet's details will be removed from the study.

When we analyse the results from all the dogs in the study, we will just refer to each dog by a random number, along with their breed and age. No other information about your dog will be included. We hope to publish a report in a veterinary journal so that other vets can learn from this study, and all the information we have collected will be deleted after this.

Thank you once again for taking the time to read this information sheet. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask. The veterinary surgeon overseeing this study is Jane Marks and the veterinary nurse assisting is Mark Janes. They can be contacted on 01234 567890 or you can email jane@sunnysidevets.co.uk. Many thanks.