
The Purton Vets Ophthalmology Referral Service

The Purton ophthalmology service is run by Ida Gilbert BVSc CertVOphthal MRCVS. Ida has offered this service at Purton Vets for many years. She gained her Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Certificate in Veterinary Ophthalmology in 2001 and provides both internal and external referrals.

“My aim is to provide excellent medical and surgical care for my patients, whilst maintaining close relationships with both the client and the referring veterinarian.”

Referrals

Please contact the reception if you wish to arrange an appointment for your client and then send a fax or letter with your name (the referring vet) and clinic, the owner's name and address, the pet's name, age, species and breed, the current ocular problem and relevant history and medication.

Advice

Ida is more than happy to speak to vets for advice. Please call reception. They can also provide a contact telephone number if she is not in the clinic.

Other Clinics

Ida works as an ambulatory ophthalmologist, visiting 7-8 different veterinary practises regularly, seeing both small animal and equine cases. She also works regularly at Optivet Referrals in Emsworth, Hampshire, providing a continuous link to the practice where most cataract cases (and cases requiring laser surgery) will be sent for their surgery.

Typical cases include

- Eyelid problems such as entropion, ectropion, diamond eye conformation, distichiasis, ectopic cilia, macropalpebral fissure, eyelid masses
- Nictitans membrane problems such as prolapsed Nictitans gland (“Cherry Eye”) and scrolled cartilage of the Nictitans membrane
- Non-healing ulcers,
- Corneal sequestrum (surgical treatment is usually a superficial keratectomy and corneoconjunctival transposition graft (CCT))
- Dermoid, corneal laceration, foreign bodies
- Keratitis, keratoconjunctivitis sicca
- Episcleritis, uveitis, glaucoma
- Neuro-ophthalmology
- Parotid duct transpositions
- Chorioretinitis, hypertension and retinal detachment cases
- Lens luxation
- Cataract assessment and follow-ups (surgery elsewhere)
- Vision assessment (but not refraction)

Diagnostic procedures

- Slitlamp biomicroscopy (the eye is examined with a handheld microscope)
- Indirect ophthalmoscopy (the posterior aspect of the eye is examined through a lens)
- Tonometry (the intraocular pressure is measured with an applanation tonometer after application of local anaesthetic, checking for uveitis and glaucoma)
- Gonioscopy (a special lens is used to examine the drainage angle of the eye)
- Schirmer tear test to check the tear production
- Vital dye tests for corneal disease

The Consultation

The first consultation will take 40-60 minutes and most follow-up consultations about 20 minutes. Ida will first discuss the current eye problem or eye-related concern as well as any other medical conditions the client may be aware of and any previous treatments tried. A thorough ophthalmic examination will then be performed, using a range of different tests and specialised ophthalmic equipment (see Diagnostic procedures). Ida will explain any relevant findings at the end of the examination and discuss the implications or surgical choices available as thoroughly as possible.

It is a good idea for clients not to feed their pet for 6-8 hours before the first consultation, in case sedation or anaesthesia should be required for further investigations or surgery. They can have free access to water. Please ask the client to bring any current medication with them.

Payment

Payment is due at the time that services are rendered.