

“THE EVIL EYE”

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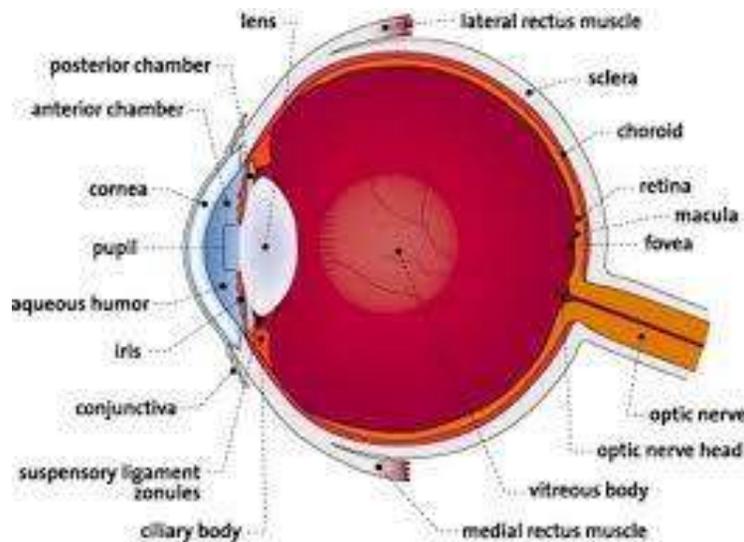
As it is around the time of Halloween, a case about ‘evil eyes’ seemed appropriate. The patient involved, however, is far from evil. She is a sweet, 10 year old Golden Retriever named Lindy, which happens to belong to our very own hospital manager, Nancy.

Lindy was presented to be examined because it seemed that one of her eyes was bothering her. Her eye was squinting a lot, was red and her owner thought that she may have scratched it while playing in the garden with the other dogs in the household.



A staining test was performed and no scratch on the eye was detected. On further examination, pigment granules were noticed inside the eye on

the inner cornea (the clear part of the eye). Also the iris (colored part) was found to be darker than the other eye and seemed thickened. We suspected that Lindy had a condition called pigmentary uveitis of golden retrievers. Consultation with an ophthalmologist confirmed this.



This condition is caused by cysts in the ciliary body in eye (see above). Pigment breaks off these cysts and sticks to the inside of the cornea, and causes a lot of inflammation in the eye. This is why Lindy was squinting and why her eye was bloodshot. We placed her on eye drops to reduce the inflammation and this worked for a while. Unfortunately, in the majority of these cases, the condition progresses and the dogs develop glaucoma. Glaucoma is an increased pressure in the eye which is uncomfortable for the dog. Eye drops were used to combat glaucoma. But as time progressed more and more pigment was also deposited which led to Lindy losing her vision in that eye. A combination of the pain from the glaucoma and the loss of vision required that Lindy have the eye removed. This procedure is called an enucleation.



Lindy underwent a successful surgery and became like a puppy again. She seemed much happier and had no trouble adapting to life with one eye. Unfortunately for Lindy, this condition appeared in her other eye weeks later.



Treatments were successful for a while until the decision was made to remove her other eye. Her owner was very nervous about how Lindy would fare with complete vision loss, but after another successful surgery she has adapted to life with ease. Lindy gets around the house and garden just fine and even navigates her way around the pool.



Lindy has taken to accessorizing and plans to take up the piano and give Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder a run for their money!!



Hope you all had a happy and safe Halloween, and didn't fall under the spell of the "evil eye"!!