



2250 Galiano Road, Kelowna BC V1V 2C6

250-717-3939

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PET'S OPHTHALMOLOGY REFERRAL

You have received this document because your pet has been referred for specialized ophthalmology services with Dr. Bianca Bauer at Okanagan Animal Eye Care

Please visit www.okanagananimaleyecare.com for more information about our clinic and services provided and please **SEE BELOW FOR IMPORTANT STEPS AND FAQS ABOUT REFERRALS TO OUR CLINIC**

WHAT IS VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGY?

Veterinary ophthalmology specializes in vision care and the diagnosis and treatment of eye and eyelid disorders in all animals including dogs, cats, horses, birds, rabbits, and exotic species. Dr. Bianca Bauer is a veterinary ophthalmologist at Okanagan Animal Eye Care in Kelowna, BC that specializes in veterinary ophthalmology.

HOW DO I BOOK AN APPOINTMENT WITH DR. BAUER?

In patients necessitating referral for complex eye conditions, a referral by your family veterinarian is required. Once your veterinarian has submitted your pet's ophthalmology referral information we ask that **clients contact us directly by phone to book an appointment**. We recommend that you contact us as soon as possible as we are typically booking up to 8 weeks in advance for routine ophthalmic examinations.

WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM AN OPHTHALMOLOGY REFERRAL?

The initial evaluation at our clinic begins with several eye tests that are performed by our veterinary technician. These tests include neuro-ophthalmology testing, measurement of tear production (Schirmer tear test) and measurement of pressures inside the eye (tonometry). These tests will help us make a diagnosis and establish a baseline of results to compare progress over time. Photographs of the eyes are also taken for the medical record. In many cases, once these tests are complete it will be recommended to dilate your pet's eyes to get a more complete evaluation of the lens and back of the eye (retina, optic nerve). It generally takes 15-20 minutes for your pet to fully dilate, although sometimes it may take longer. Once dilated, your pet will then be ready to be fully examined by our ophthalmologist, Dr. Bauer. During the examination by Dr. Bauer the eye is examined with specialized equipment and to aid in a diagnosis or treatment plan for your pet, other tests or procedures including ocular stains to assess the integrity of the eye may be performed. Once the examination process is complete Dr. Bauer will discuss her diagnosis, recommendations and possible treatment plans for your pet.



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HOW LONG IS AN OPHTHALMOLOGY APPOINTMENT?

Ophthalmology appointments are very thorough and the whole process, which may include waiting for dilation of your pet's pupils, can sometimes be time-consuming. Please prepare for a longer visit. A new, first-time appointment may take 45 minutes to an hour and recheck examinations may take up to 30 minutes. For further information on the examination process please call our office.

WHAT IS THE COST OF AN APPOINTMENT WITH A VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGIST?

The cost of an initial assessment by Dr. Bauer is \$275 plus GST. This assessment includes neuro-ophthalmology testing, Schirmer tear tests, tonometry and fluorescein staining if indicated. The cost of recheck examinations if indicated are \$165 plus GST which also include neuro-ophthalmology testing, Schirmer tear tests, tonometry and fluorescein staining as necessary.

HOW CAN I PREPARE FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH DR. BAUER?

Upon arrival you will be asked questions regarding your pet's vision and comfort and also about his or her systemic health. It is helpful if you can provide a list of medications your pet is currently on or has received in the recent past. ***It is also helpful if you can bring all of your pet's medications with you to the appointment.*** If your pet is on topical eye medications it is recommended that you do not give the medications within the hour prior to the appointment.