

COMPANION ANIMAL

OPHTHALMOLOGY



Simon A. Pot, DVM,
Diplomate ACVO/ECVO

Ophthalmology Section,
Equine Department,
Vetsuisse Faculty, University
of Zurich
Switzerland

spot@vetclinics.uzh.ch

OCULAR EMERGENCIES: RAPID ASSESSMENT AND FIRST RESPONSE

Ocular emergencies are cases that require immediate, professional attention to maximize the probability of a comfortable, intact eye with good vision. The differential diagnosis and triage of the two most common telephone presentations of emergency cases (pain/redness and blindness) will briefly be discussed.

Red Eye	Blind quiet eye
Conjunctivitis	Cataract
Blepharitis	Progressive retinal atrophy (PRA)
(Epi)scleritis	Chorioretinitis
Keratitis	Retinal detachment
Glaucoma	Sudden acquired retinal degeneration syndrome (SARDs)
Uveitis	Enrofloxacin intoxication
Hyphaema	Optic neuritis
Periocular haemorrhage	Central blindness
Orbital cellulitis	

The proper identification and first aid/emergency treatment for the most common ocular emergencies will be discussed, including ocular trauma, proptosis, uveitis, glaucoma, lens luxation and sudden blindness.