

CORNEAL DEGENERATION

Corneal degeneration is a disorder affecting the layers that make up the cornea (the clear surface of the eye). The primary characteristic of corneal degeneration that you are likely to notice is an appearance of cloudiness to the eye. The condition may occur in both eyes in varying degrees or areas, or may occur only in one eye.

Corneal degeneration typically represents a post-inflammatory response to an underlying eye or systemic condition that your pet may have had in the past or may have currently. For example, corneal degeneration may result from corneal ulceration, chronic eye disease, or from metabolic disorders such as Cushings disease or hypothyroidism. The degeneration will not go away, and may get worse if the underlying condition is not brought under control.

In some cases, the degenerating (cloudy) areas of the cornea are prone to intermittent erosions, which could cause your pet to squint from time to time. Topical eye ointments can be used to create a protective layer over degenerating areas.