

CORNEAL SEQUESTRUM

Corneal sequestrum is a common disease in cats, especially the Persian and Himalayan breeds. It is characterized by a brown to black area of corneal degeneration, usually centrally located. This dead area of cornea may involve only the surface layers or, in severe cases, may penetrate to very deep layers of the cornea. The cause is unknown but factors such as Feline Herpesvirus, lack of tears, breed, or poorly healing corneal ulcers may play a role.

Surgery is often necessary to remove the sequestrum if the patient is uncomfortable (i.e. if redness, squinting, ulceration or discharge is present). Corneal sequestra can recur in the same or opposite eye at ANY time. This disease is often frustrating because of its recurrent nature. Some cats require multiple surgeries.