

About

Ophthalmology examines the anatomy, function and disease of the eye, and the ophthalmology department at The Hope Center strives to restore vision and alleviate ocular discomfort in our patients. Specialized instruments and procedures optimize the health of the animal's eye. This department is dedicated to keeping owners and referring veterinarians informed of their pet's progress and involved in treatment decisions.

Some of the most common procedures performed include repairs of eyelid abnormalities, glaucoma therapy, surgical repair of corneal ulcerations and perforations, and cataract surgery.

Treatments and Procedures Available

Extraocular

- Surgical correction of eyelid and eyelash defects
- Tumor resection
- Replacement of prolapsed 3rd eyelid gland (cherry eye)
- Enucleation (removal of eye) and evisceration (placement of globe prosthesis)
- Treatment of non-healing corneal ulcers
- Laser treatment and surgery for glaucoma
- Conjunctival grafts for deep or infected corneal ulcers
- Direct corneal suturing for corneal laceration

Intraocular

- Laser destruction of iris cysts
- Retinal laser or cryopexy for retinal tears
- Cataract surgery including intraocular lens replacement
- Removal of luxated lens

Medical Management

Diseases leading to severe discomfort or blindness including kerato conjunctivitis sicca (KCS or dry eye), uveitis, glaucoma, retinal detachment and optic neuritis.

Staff

Elizabeth Adkins, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACVO

Dr. Elizabeth Adkins became the head of The Hope Center Ophthalmology Department in May of 2009 and is a board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist who has been a veterinarian since 1997. She joined The Hope Center after two years at the University of Wisconsin as a Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology. Prior to this position, she had been in private ophthalmology practice since 2004. Dr. Adkins is a graduate of The University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine and returned there for her residency program after receiving a Masters in Comparative Biomedical Sciences from North Carolina State University.

In addition to being a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists, Dr Adkins is also a member of National Shiba Club of America. Dr. Adkins has three Shiba Inus, including one from Midwest Shiba Inu Rescue.