

# SCCED

## SPONTANEOUS CHRONIC CORNEAL EPITHELIAL DEFECT

### WHAT IS A SCCED?

A SCCED is a superficial wound (ulcer) on the cornea (the clear window of the eye). SCCEDs occur spontaneously and often do not heal normally despite medical treatment.

### HOW IS A SCCED TREATED?

The reason that these ulcers do not heal normally is because of the abnormal membrane that forms beneath the surface layer, meaning that despite trying to grow in, it cannot stick down. Treatment aims to remove this abnormal membrane.

### COMPLICATIONS

- Failure to heal is a common problem, and if following multiple interventions the ulcer has not healed we would recommend surgical treatment.
- Although rare, infection can occur; increased pain and discharge from the eye would indicate this.
- Some scarring is expected but this usually fades in time. Blood vessels grow into the cornea to heal the ulcer, once the ulcer has healed the cornea will start to clear.

### TREATMENT OPTIONS

- Cotton bud debridement (successful in 30-40% of cases).
- Diamond burr debridement (successful in 85% of cases).
- Surgery: Superficial keratectomy (successful almost 100% of cases).

### WHICH TREATMENT IS BEST?

The best treatment options for your dog will depend on various factors, such as: your dog's temperament, suitability for anaesthetic, finances and your personal preference. We are here to inform and support you.

### AFTERCARE

For all treatments, your dog will require eye drops and a buster collar until the ulcer has healed. A contact lens is also placed to improve comfort and healing. Oral painkillers may be prescribed to help keep your dog comfortable, and we will review your dog's progress around 7 days later.

*Optivet Referrals*

# SCCED

## SPONTANEOUS CHRONIC CORNEAL EPITHELIAL DEFECT

### ANY QUESTIONS?

Do not hesitate to contact us.

Call us on: 012433888091

Email us on: [advice@optivet.com](mailto:advice@optivet.com)

Visit our website: [www.optivet.com](http://www.optivet.com)

### WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

We understand that your pets health is extremely important, and it can be very worrying when they are unwell.

We are here to listen and support you.  
Please get in touch with any concerns you may have.



Author: Joy Ioannides  
BSc(Hons) BVetMed (Hons) PGDipVCP MRCVS

Designed by: Samantha Lympany-Tier  
MSc BSc (Hons) PTLLS