

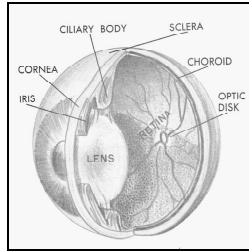
**Range Animal Hospital**

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# Enucleation

- These are commonly performed surgeries in dogs and cats. They are generally more traumatic for the client than the patient.
- Unrelenting, painful disease of the non-visual eye is the most common indication. Clients must understand that their pet deserves the relief of chronic pain and suffering, especially if there is little hope of improvement in comfort or vision. Careful explanation is essential! We like to tell our clients that their pet “will be glad to be rid of his eye.”
- We have not been impressed with prosthetic globe replacement. The external appearance is NOT normal, and some cases result in an eye that is still diseased. We believe enucleation is best with the total removal of the globe and adnexal structures, followed by suturing the eyelid shut. While not cosmetically perfect from the human perspective, we believe the dog’s perspective is in agreement with this procedure.
- In cases of proptosis of the eye, the decision to enucleate may be aided by an ultrasonographic exam of the eye socket. Documentation of a retro bulbar hemorrhagic event is strong evidence of rupture of the artery of the optic nerve and the concomitant and permanent loss of retinal function.
- We do these procedures daily as needed. Call ASAP to aid in coordinating our schedule. A call to Dr. Martinson after hours is appropriate.
- We will coordinate postoperative aftercare with your hospital. Typical care includes:
  - A 4-5 day postoperative incision check.
  - A 10-12 day suture removal.
- Cases typically have 1 night of hospitalization, unless additional complicating factors are present.
- Uncomplicated cases are typically \$500 to \$700. [January 2011]. Ask for an estimate.