

TEST FOR BLINDNESS IN DOGS

- Functional examination of the eye in animals is difficult.
- True evaluation of pain, light and dark adaptation, field of vision and percent of vision is impossible.
- Only subjective analysis can be done.

Requisites for test of blindness:

Good history:

1. Movement of the dog throughout the house.
2. UP and down movement.
3. Movement on lighted and unlighted stairs.
4. Movement out of doors and during dark versus sunlight days.
5. Reaction to small versus large objects.
6. Ability to jump on sofas/beds etc.
7. Any history of recent trauma/fall etc.

“BLIND ANIMALS MOVE WITH CAUTION AND SNIFF THEIR WAY AROUND AND ALWAYS STEP HIGH WITH FRONT FEET.”

PROCEDURE: Always do the test in quiet environment.

- Blind fold the unaffected eye.
- Subject the animal to an obstacle course and see the reaction.

The animal is blind if moves with caution and sniffing the way.

Important consideration: Hand waiving technique is never done as motion will cause eyelid blinking.