



SEADOWN

VETERINARY GROUP



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Electroretinography

Electroretinography is carried out to assess whether the retina is working normally. The retina is at the back of the eye, and is responsible for the production of visual information, which is then transferred to the brain. The retina can usually be examined by the vet; however some conditions (such as cataracts) can prevent visualisation of the back of the eye. In addition, in some situations the back of the eye may have a normal appearance but not work properly.



An electroretinogram (ERG) is usually carried out under sedation or general anaesthesia. It is not a painful procedure and will not harm your pet, but the equipment used is very sensitive and the animal must be completely still. The eye is stimulated with light, and the retina's response recorded electronically. An ERG may be used as part of an investigation when an animal has reduced vision or has gone blind. An ERG is also often carried out prior to cataract surgery, because the retina cannot be visualised in the presence of a mature cataract. If the retina is not working then unfortunately even removal of the cataract will not restore vision.

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