

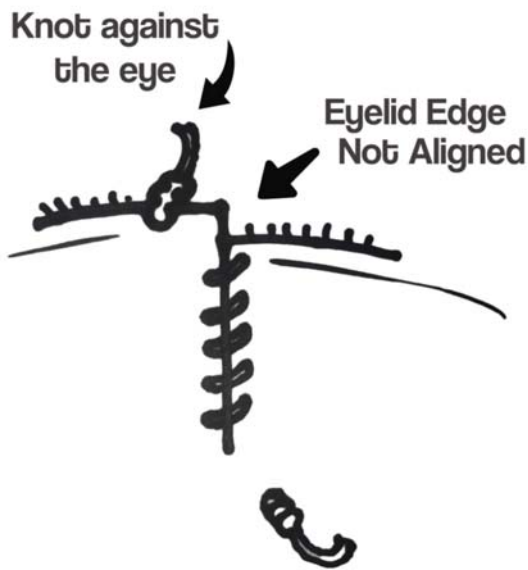
# Post-Operative Instructions Specific to V-Plasty

“V”-plasty is a plastic surgery to remove cancerous and other eye-lid lesions. A “V” shaped notch is cut into the edge of the lid to make sure and “get the root” of any lesion being removed.

The edges of the lid are re-opposed and sutured together.

It involves stitches *near* the eyeball and THAT IS THE “THING” about these surgeries.

Sometimes, and even severely, **one of the “knots” in the suture material will lay up against the eye.** It’s OBVIOUS if you’re alert to it. And a stitch against the eyeball can do a LOT of damage. So keep a watch for that. In most cases, I try to close with a knot FAR from the eyeball but sometimes I don’t get the choice.



**About the LID:** Swelling always occurs and deforms the eyelid for a short period of time. It’s normal to think “Oh my God, that looks so messed up.” For reassurance, you are certainly invited to bring the critter over for a quick looksie, or, you can send a decent-quality image from your iPhone.

The lid may appear rolled inward, or outward. The lid edge may seem wavy. These are concerns but seldom if ever “stay that way”.

After a couple days the swelling departs and you get a better idea of how the eyelid will look post operatively. Like, “down the road.”

It’s true, that if I had to remove a lump that was 4-5mm there may actually, legitimately BE a disruption in the eye lid. There’s only so much you can do,

cosmetically with very big eyelid lesions.

There should be purple stitches in the face under or over the eye depending on where the surgery was. They’re tiny little sutures and they \*SHOULD\* dissolve and fall out. After a week to ten days you can sometimes scratch them “off” and SOMETIMES - - a person brings the dog by and says “Can y’all remove these last few stitches?”

Which is perfectly fine. But usually not necessary.

## **They MUST NOT rub their eye or their stitches.**

A “Cone Collar” or “Lampshade” or “Cone of Shame” should be applied for any eye rubbing.

An eye ointment will probably have been sent home to prevent scabbing of the stitches.