

Prevalence of Canine Cataracts in Korea: From August 2002 to December 2005

Shin-Ae Park, Na-Young Yi, Man-Bok Jeong, Won-Tae Kim, Se-Eun Kim, Je-Min Chae,
and Kang-Moon Seo*

College of Veterinary Medicine, Seoul National University

Introduction: The study was conducted to determine prevalence of cataracts in dogs using breed, gender, age of onset, grades and concurrent ocular diseases.

Materials and methods: Medical records of 417 dogs (700 eyes) diagnosed with cataract at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital of Seoul National University from August 2002 to December 2005 were reviewed.

Results: The prevalence of patients with cataract was 32.2%. The breeds with the highest cataract prevalence included the Miniature/Toy Poodle (17.3%), Yorkshire Terrier (15.6%), Shih Tzu (13.9%), Maltese (12.5%) and American Cocker Spaniel (9.9%), in order. The mean age with cataract formation was 6.92 ± 4.2 years with a range from 3 months to 21 years. The mean age for the Miniature/Toy Poodle (9.4 ± 3.4 years) and Yorkshire Terrier (9 ± 2.4 years) were significantly higher than mean age for the American Cocker Spaniel (2.2 ± 2.2 years), Miniature Schnauzer (3.7 ± 1.7 years), Siberian Husky (2.7 ± 3.6 years) and Alaskan Malamute (0.9 ± 0.3 years) ($p < 0.05$). The gender distribution was 246 females (59%) and 171 males (41%). The most common etiologies of cataract included breed related cataracts (41.6%), senile cataracts (20.7%), inherited cataract (16.6%), gPRA (7%) and trauma (2.6%). Incipient cataracts were shown in 244 eyes (34.9%), immature cataracts in 138 eyes (19.7%), mature cataracts in 223 eyes (31.9%) and hypermature cataracts in 95 eyes (13.6%). The concurrent ocular diseases included nuclear sclerosis (15.3%), medial canthal trichiasis (11.7%), distichiasis (11.7%), iris atrophy (11.3%) and uveitis (10.1%).

Clinical relevance: The results about prevalence of cataract in Korea are intended to use as a reference data in practice.

*Corresponding author: kmseo@snu.ac.kr