Post-operative management of the third eyelid removal

* The most likely complication to be incurred while performing this procedure if done on the standing horse is iatrogenic induction of ulcerative keratitis.
* For this reason, post-surgical fluorescein ophthalmic staining\* of the affected eye is done and prescribes twice daily a topical ophthalmic triple antibiotic ointment application for 5 days after surgery.

**Other post-operative complications include:**

* Retrobulbar adipose tissue prolapse or accumulation of mucopurulent debris in the medial canthus because of the large dead space present
* Post-operatively, the removal of the third eyelid can lead to dry eye or keratoconjunctivitis sicca in the canine patient; however, this is rare in the equine patient.
* Treat with oral antibiotics and anti-inflammatories, as well as topical antibiotics in the right eye. There was slight haemorrhagic discharge from the eye and right nostril that resolved in a day or so.

\*A Fluorescein test is a test that can help detect injuries to the cornea, which is the clear, thin layer of tissue that covers the front of the eye. The cornea must remain transparent to support vision, but this transparency makes detecting scratches or other injuries on the cornea very difficult because they are invisible. Fluorescein is green-tinted dye that fluoresces (glows) under blue light. A small amount of this dye applied to the surface of the eye (on top of the cornea) can be used to detect corneal injuries.

