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FOLLICULAR CONJUNCTIVITIS

This is a very common condition affecting adolescent dogs. It generally affects dogs with deep medial "pockets" to their eyes, those who regularly play in sand or dig in dirt and those with other allergic skin conditions.

The underside of the third eyelid develops a follicular response to particles in the environment and this raised surface rubbing against the cornea of the eye usually results in a sticky mucoid discharge.

Treatment involves:

- 1. Reducing the follicle build up by rubbing them to break them with a cotton bud (there may be a slightly bloody discharge as a result)
- 2. Giving anti-inflammatory medication to allow healing and prevent further follicle formation
- 3. Ongoing cleaning of the eyes to reduce or eliminate the build up of dirt particles.

Often repeated rubbing may be necessary at 2 week intervals if discharge persists from the eyes.