

Robinson Veterinary Services

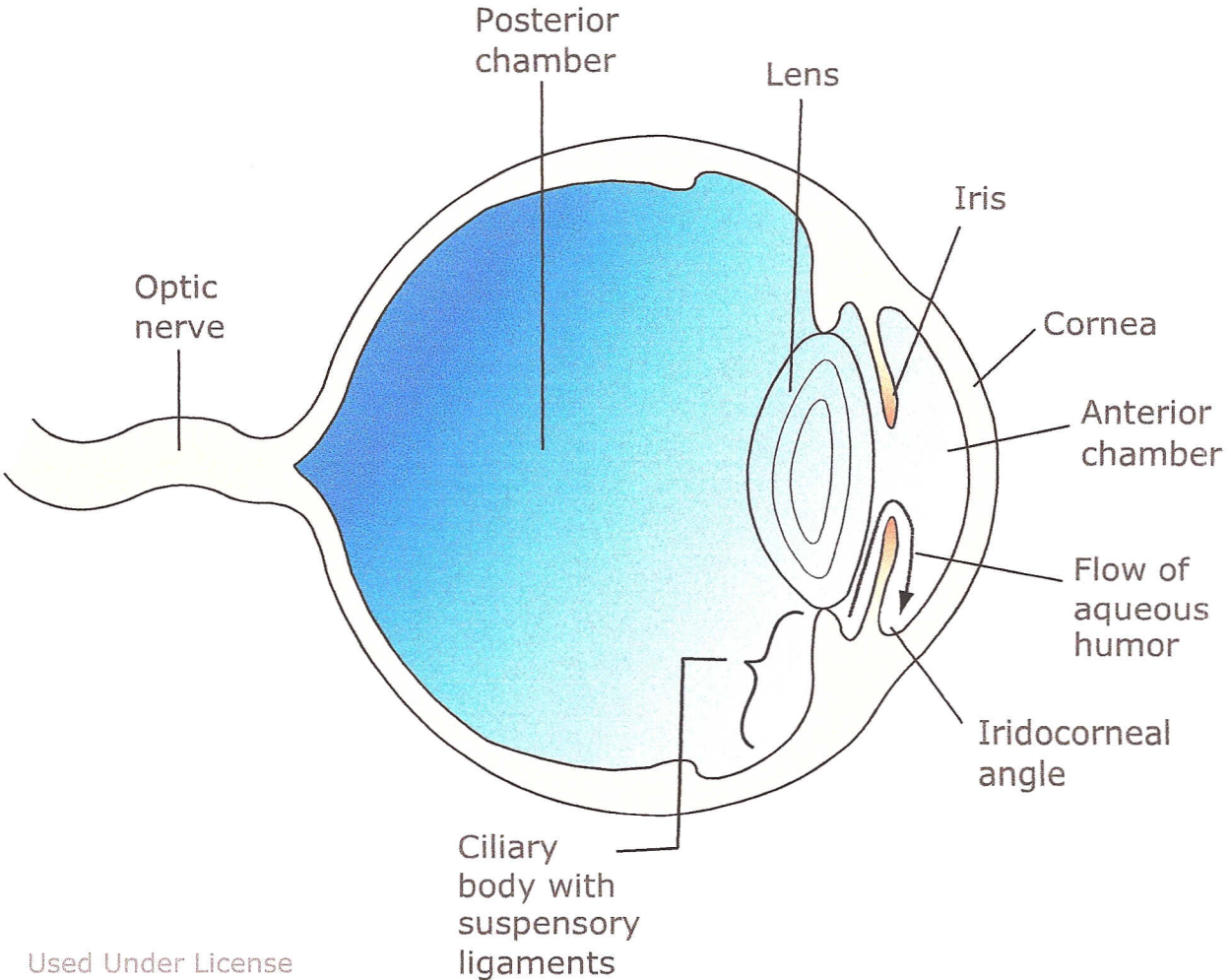
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Aqueous Flow: Normal flow and glaucoma.



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The interior of the eye is divided into an anterior (front) chamber and posterior (back) chamber. The anterior chamber is located between the cornea and the iris and contains a watery fluid called aqueous humor. This fluid, which supplies the cornea and lens with oxygen and nutrients, is produced in the ciliary body, circulates through the anterior chamber and drains out at the iridocorneal angle. If a problem with fluid drainage occurs, the pressure within the eye will increase, leading to glaucoma, a painful condition that damages the optic nerve and leads to blindness if left untreated. Glaucoma can be a primary disease that occurs spontaneously, or may occur secondary to another cause such as inflammation within the eye, ocular hemorrhage (e.g., from trauma), ocular tumors, or lens luxation. Any of these conditions will obstruct the drainage of fluid out of the iridocorneal angle, leading to pressure build-up. For further information about these conditions, see our Client Education Handout Series.