



DOG EAR ANATOMY

BREEDING & BUSINESS

Dog ear deformities are a common challenge in surgical practice, resulting from mismatched closure of wound edges. These deformities are characterized by excess tissue protrusions, categorized as standing cone, lying cone, or inverted cone, depending on their orientation relative to the incision line. The primary cause is a mismatch in the length of the closure line relative to the original incision, leading to rotational forces at the wound margins. This discrepancy is exacerbated by apical angles exceeding 30°, convex surface anatomy, and reduced dermal elasticity due to age or actinic damage. Management of dog ears involves principles of reducing apical angles, minimizing rotational forces, and optimizing scar placement along relaxed skin tension lines (RSTL) or cosmetic unit boundaries.

The respiratory system consists of the large and small airways and the lungs. When a dog breathes air in through its nose or mouth, the air travels down the trachea, which divides into the tubes known as the right and left bronchi, then into the smaller airways called bronchioles in the lungs. The bronchioles end in the small sacs called alveoli, where the barrier between the air and the blood is a thin membrane.

