



## **Radioactive Iodine Treatment (I-131)**

Within 30 days of radioactive iodine treatment the following blood work needs to be completed:-

**Creatinine and BUN (typically found in a renal profile) as well as a T4 and a Free T4. Also the most current weight on the cat.**

All blood work needs to be sent to us (if you are a referral client) at least 1 week prior to treatment; this allows enough time to have the radioactive iodine formulated.

Methimazole (transdermal or pill form) needs to be stopped 10 days prior to treatment. However, your veterinarian may recommend stopping the medication 2 weeks prior to the blood work being performed. If this is the case, you can keep your cat off the medication for good.

An exam must be performed by one of Quakertown Veterinary Clinics doctors, this can be done the morning of treatment.

Your cat will stay here for a total of 96 hours, admit is typically on a Monday morning and they go home on Friday at noon.

Please bring your cat's favorite food and any other medications that he or she may be on. You may bring a small towel or old t-shirt to go in the cage. Just know that it will need to be thrown out at the end of the cats stay here. We try to be conscious of waste, so no cat beds or large blankets.

If your cat doesn't handle vaccines well or is easily stressed at the vet, please talk to your vet about using Gabapentin. This causes mild sedation and is used often as an anxiety reducer in cats.

If your cat is not well behaved for restraint, injectable sedation may be needed. We will call you beforehand if it is required. We just want to make sure that your cat is as still and relaxed as possible to receive the full dose of radioactive iodine.

Treatment costs **\$2,250** and is due at the time of pick up on Friday. We accept cash, check and credit cards, CareCredit and Scratch Pay.

During your cat's stay, a text message with an update and picture will be sent to you each morning. This is a no reply system, if you have any questions or want an in-depth update, please call into the clinic and ask to talk to Sabrina (our I-131 tech). If she is not in or unavailable at that moment, you will be put into the I-131 voicemail. She will contact you as soon as possible.

The radioactive specialist will meet with you at the time of discharge, and go over all of the instructions with you. When your cat goes home, he or she will need to be kept in their own room for 2 weeks. You may pet and hold your cat but limit this to 5-10 minutes at a time and wash your hands afterwards. No sleeping with your cat for this 2 week window.

For any litterbox waste, you may either collect it in the orange bags provided at time of discharge and dispose of it after 80 days, or you can get septic system safe litter and dispose of the waste down the toilet. **Either option needs to be done for 2 weeks.**

At 6-8 weeks post treatment please have another T-4 and Free T4 blood test done with your vet and have the results sent to the email below (if you are a referral client). The results will be shared with the specialist and they will determine if the treatment needs to be repeated. A second treatment is rarely needed but if it is, the treatment will be at no cost to you.

Email: [i131@quakertownvet.com](mailto:i131@quakertownvet.com)

215-536-6245 Voicemail extension: 3320

Quakertown Veterinary Clinic 2021