

Radioactive Iodine Treatment (I-131)

Within 30 days of radioactive iodine treatment the following blood work needs to be complete: Creatinine and BUN (typically found in a renal profile) as well as a T4 and a Free T4. We also need the most current weight on your cat.

All blood work needs to be sent to me at least 1 week prior to treatment; this allows enough time to have the cat's individualized radioactive iodine dose calculated.

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. This usually needs to be done if your cat has been on Methimazole for more than 6 months. If this is the case, you can keep your cat off the medication for good.

If your cat was never seen at Quakertown Veterinary Clinic, a new patient exam is required. Sabrina or Stacy will be able to schedule you an appointment with one of the routine doctors at your convenience.

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 and Buprenex. 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 required. I will call you beforehand if it is required. We just want to make sure that your cat receives the full dose of radioactive iodine.

Treatment costs **\$2,475** and is due at the time of pick up on Friday. We don't accept payment plans, but we do accept care credit and scratch pay. Please apply for these prior to treatment if needed.

During your cat's stay, a text message with an update and picture will be sent to you each day. They will be sent to you no later than 12pm each day. 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 or Stacy. If they are not in or unavailable at the moment, you will be put into the I-131 voicemail. The best way to get in contact with us is by email and faster responses are given that way. We will contact you if there are any urgent needs.

The I-131 specialist will meet with you at the time of discharge and will 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 the two week collection period of the waste, you can collect it in the orange bags provided and dispose of it after 80 days or you can get septic system safe litter and dispose of the waste down the toilet. Both of the options would need to be done for the 2 weeks. 6-8 weeks post treatment, please have another T-4 and Free T4 run at your regular vet and have the results sent to Quakertown Vet Clinic. I will then forward the results to the I-131 specialist to 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 215-536-6245 Voicemail extension: 3320