



Preparing For Feline I-131 Therapy

All cats being considered as candidates for I-131 therapy must have a confirmed diagnosis of hyperthyroidism be either having a high T4, high free T4, or positive thyroid nuclear scintigram.

Within one month before I-131 Administration

- A review of test from the referring veterinarian or perform tests to evaluate any “masked” problems that may be underlying the hyperthyroid condition: A CBC, blood chemistries with T4 and urinalysis are always submitted and reviewed.
- We also review chest radiographs and perform echocardiogram if heart problems are noted in the initial workup. Please bring radiographs with you to your initial consultation.
- Our board-certified veterinary internal medicine doctor will meet with you and your cat to review your veterinarian’s findings, perform a physical examination, discuss whether I-131 is the best treatment option, and whether any underlying disease may be problematic for your cat’s good response to therapy. You will be given consent forms and information on how to take care of your pet after treatment.
- Schedule date for I-131 treatment. The I-131 treatment must be ordered in advance for your cat and can only be used in a short time window. Therefore, APPOINTMENTS CANCELLED WITHIN THE 72 HOURS OF THE SCHEDULE DATE WILL INCUR A \$250 FEE TO ACCOUNT FOR THE COST OF THE I-131 DOSE.

Drop Off Day

- Drop off in a small plastic carrier is required. If you do not have a carrier, we can provide one at additional cost.
- Please bring in an 8-day supply of your cat’s food and a single personal small object or toy for your cat while here. **This item cannot be returned due to radiation safety regulations.**
- Pre-treatment physical examination and sedation if applicable.
- I-131 treatment by subcutaneous injection.
- A deposit in the amount of \$1000 will be required. This covers the cost of the I-131 treatment and 4 days of hospitalization. Any other unforeseen treatments that need to be performed while hospitalized are not included in this price.
- Your pet must be dropped off by 9 am to receive treatment.

Hospitalized Days

- Daily examination, assessment, and well care during hospitalization stay by our doctors and staff.
- Daily radioactive patient monitoring.
- Daily calls from our staff to you to update you on your cat’s status.
- Your veterinarian receives medical records upon your cat’s discharge from the isolation facility. Included in this summary sheet are the recommended monitoring steps for your veterinarian to perform after your cat goes home.

When Your Cat Goes Home After I-131 Therapy

Once your cat's radioactivity emission rate has dropped below the legal level, and we feel it is appropriate, we can send him/her home. Your cat will still continue to emit low levels of radiation for a short time. You will be given detailed instructions at that time on how to specifically care for your cat for the first 14 days following discharge from the hospital. This includes restrictions on physical contact, how to clean the litter box, hygiene following touching your cat, and if necessary how to medicate your cat during this time.

If these guidelines are followed, it is safe to have your at with you at home. If you are concerned with your ability to follow these guidelines, arrangements can be made to have your cat stay with us longer.

Post-Administration Medical Follow Up:

- At one-month post treatment, your veterinarian will give your cat a physical exam and will run blood chemistries with a T4, as well as test urine specific gravity.
- Post treatment senior cats should have a physical exam and lab tests every six months to assess geriatric health.

If your cat dies for any reason within 80 days of the I-131 injection, we will have to keep your cat's body until radiation levels have returned to background levels, prior to releasing the remains for cremation.

Client Signature _____ **Date** _____