

## Radio Iodine Cat Centre

### Information for referring vet surgeons

- Certified ISFM Cat Friendly Clinic
- Run by clinicians with small animal medicine certificates and advanced feline qualifications
- Upgraded and enriched patient accommodation
- First radio iodine centre in the north of England, providing treatment since 2008
- Clinical team on-site 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- RCVS hospital facilities for additional tests or treatments as required
- Direct insurance claims are available

Pre-treatment investigations and post-treatment monitoring can be carried out at the referring practice with our support, to minimise travel. If required, we can undertake additional investigations e.g. echocardiography.



### Iodine Treatment Information

- Curative in 95% of cases
- Median survival times with I-131 significantly longer than with methimazole treatment alone
- Minimal side effects
- Patients remain hospitalised until radiation levels have reduced to a safe level usually 7-9 days
- Extended stays can be accommodated
- Treatment is especially suited to cats who are:-
  - Under 15 years of age (to prevent neoplastic transformation over time)
  - Patients intolerant to medical management or where compliance is an issue
  - Where surgery is not an option e.g. ectopic thyroid tissue

## Recommended pre-treatment protocol

**Prior stabilisation isn't always necessary, especially if there is no evidence of azotaemia together with very mild increases in liver enzymes and no evidence of cardiac disease.**

- Full clinical examination (including but not exclusively retinal exam, cardiovascular assessment, thorough abdominal palpation and thyroid palpation).
- Haematology, biochemistry and total T4 and ideally urine specific gravity.
- Medicate with thiamazole/carbimazole/methimazole /y/d diet.
- Once time elapsed to stabilise, repeat haematology, biochemistry and total T4 together with urine specific gravity and ideally blood pressure.
- Repeat full clinical examination including weight when tT4 is in the lower half of the reference range.
- The aim of the stabilisation process is to allow thorough assessment of renal function after any unmasking, together with true cardiac and hepatic assessment and to confirm no ongoing weight loss.
- Additional tests may be required depending on findings:-
  - o Cardiac investigation if significant murmur, tachycardia or arrhythmia persists.
  - o Imaging if concern re concurrent neoplasia etc.
  - o Fasting bile acid, or bile acid stimulation test if no improvement in liver enzymes.
  - o Further urinalysis including culture.
  - o FeLV/FIV testing if high risk patient.

If you would like to discuss or refer a case, please call the Radio Iodine Centre on 01765 602396 or email [radioiodine@bishoptonvets.co.uk](mailto:radioiodine@bishoptonvets.co.uk)

Where radio iodine is appropriate, a telephone consultation will be undertaken with your client after the referral is made and prior to treatment date being confirmed.

- Patients should be up to date with their vaccinations.
- Medication should be stopped 10 days before treatment date. (y/d diet – 14 days).
- Routine worming and flea medications should be administered 1 week prior to treatment.
- A repeat tT4 (external lab) will be required 5 days before treatment – used to aid dose calculation.

**Referral forms can be completed on our website [www.bishoptonvets.co.uk](http://www.bishoptonvets.co.uk) – please submit together with a history and any recent laboratory results. Information booklets for owners are available.**