

Post-radioactive iodine treatment – Owner Information Sheet

Thank you for bringing your cat to the RVC to undergo their radioactive iodine treatment.

If your cat was discharged having spent 23 days with us, then no special precautions are required. However, if your cat has been discharged after only 15 days, then we ask that the following additional precautions are carried out for the following 8 days:

- Your cat is kept indoors and uses a litter box
- Everyone limits the amount of time spent in close proximity to your cat
- All children in the house remain a safe distance from your cat and its' litter box
- Anyone that is pregnant does not come into contact with your cat
- All soiled litter is stored in an outside storage area (garage, shed) for 1 month before being put out for collection. Alternatively, special litter can be purchased to flush down the toilet.

Immediately prior to being discharged home, your cat will have had their thyroid, blood pressure and kidney function re-tested. Most cats will have a normal or low thyroid level at this time; however, this can change over the following 6 months.

As standard, we recommend that all cats are re-assessed by your local veterinary practice at 3- and 6 months after being discharged. At these assessments, your cat should be examined, weighed and have their blood pressure, urine and blood samples checked. If your cat is found to have developed hypothyroidism (low thyroid level) in combination with unmasking chronic kidney disease at the 6-month check-up, then liquid thyroid supplementation will be prescribed.

Occasionally, we may ask you to take your cat to your local practice 1-2 weeks post discharge for repeat blood pressure measurement. If your cat is found to have a persistently increased blood pressure (>160 mmHg) then medication will be prescribed to help lower this.

If you have any questions or concerns about your cat after it has received RAI treatment with us, then please contact the RVC small animal internal medicine team at qmhreception@rvc.ac.uk.