**Release Information and Safety Precautions for Owners of Cats Treated at VCA DIAH Feline Hyperthyroid Treatment Center**

**Patient:**

**Date of I-131 Treatment**: **Dose:**

**Date of Discharge:**

Upon discharge from DIAH, your cat will have an exposure rate of no more than 0.5 mR/hr when measured one foot from the surface of the thyroid gland. Radiation safety precautions still are required for a period of 14-days after your cat has been discharged from the hospital (or 17 days post I-131 Treatment). After the date listed below your cat will contain no significant detectable level of radioactivity and enhanced safety precautions can be discontinued. With release of the cat to your care, you are accepting responsibility for the radiation protection of yourself and all other persons who may come in contact with your pet.

**NO SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS WILL BE NEEDED AFTER THE DATE:**

**Please observe the following safety precautions regarding excrement until:**

**1.** Initially, your cat will be excreting a small amount of radioactivity in its urine and bowel movements. Provide a clean litter box that is located in an area where children cannot be exposed to it. Please wear gloves when changing the litter or cleaning excrements outside the litter box (vomit included). We have provided several pairs of disposable latex gloves for your use. *Anyone under 18 years of age or pregnant should not handle soiled litter.*

There are two options to dispose of contaminated litter. handled in one of two ways:
**A)** Flush waste every day into the sanitary sewage system (toilet), or
**B)** Stored in an isolated and secure container for a period of 90 days.

1. Use a flushable clumping cat litter and discard waste down the toilet at least once daily. We recommend “World’s Best Flushable Cat Litter” or equivalent. At the end of the 12-day period, clean the entire contents of the litter box, rinse the box a couple of times and refill with fresh litter of your choice.
	1. This method is not an option if your home is on a Septic System.
2. To store the litter for 90 days, remove the litter clumps and stool from the litter box at least once daily. Place excrement in a covered trash container that is located in an unoccupied area. Ensure that children, pets, and/or wild animals can not have access to this container. An enclosed garage is often the best location. Once 90 days has elapsed, the contents of the container will no longer be radioactive and can be discarded with your normal trash.

**Other Safety Notes to Observe over the 14-Day Period After Discharge:**

1. Your cat should not be in contact with children under 18 years or pregnant women.
2. Do not let your cat sleep on your bed at night, and minimize handling in general.
3. Wash your hands after handling your pet, its’ food dishes, or litter pan.
4. Keep your cat strictly confined to your home. In a multi-pet household, we recommend confinement to an area within your home (a spare room or bathroom, if possible).
	* Cat’s that display agitation or anxiety with home/room confinement may benefit from FeliwayR or ComfortZoneR plug-in pheromones, a calming collar, AnxitaneR S supplementation, etc. Please speck to Dr. Boltz or the center coordinator for more information.
5. If your cat requires medical attention prior to the date listed on this form, please present this form to the doctor prior to the examination so they can take appropriate safety precautions with your cat.

Please feel free to contact Dr. Boltz or her staff if you have any specific problems or questions regarding your cat’s treatment or these radiation safety precautions.

I have read this form and the information contained in it has been explained to me. I understand the radiation safety precautions that I must follow until the date listed above.

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SIGNED DATE