



REFERRING A CAT FOR RADIOIODINE TREATMENT

What diagnostic tests need to be performed before referral for radioiodine treatment?

As the cat's primary veterinarian, you are welcome to perform routine diagnostic testing and workup before referral for radioiodine treatment. This is very important because these cats tend to be middle to old-aged and may have other, unrelated geriatric problems. However, we are happy to provide the following services to your patient while here for the initial consult.

The minimum recommended diagnostics include the following:

- CBC, serum chemistry panel, T4 and urinalysis
- 3 View Chest Radiographs

Additional diagnostics that can be helpful:

- Echocardiogram – if arrhythmia, conduction disturbance, or heart failure is suspected
- Abdominal Ultrasound – if the cat has a poor appetite or other signs of non-hyperthyroid disease are present

All diagnostics should be performed within 1 month of the patient's scheduled internal medicine consult. If they are performed longer than 1 month from the consult, the tests may be repeated and the client will be charged.

What else is needed?

- The referral form (completed by referring veterinarian), so we know how to best contact you.
- Please clearly indicate the pretreatment serum T4 value and date of initial diagnosis.
- Complete medical record (results of history, physical examination, and all laboratory results) since time of diagnosis of cat's hyperthyroidism.
- Methimazole should be discontinued one week prior to treatment.

What is the cost of treatment?

- The cost of treatment is ~\$1900, not including pretreatment diagnostics.

Where do I fax or email the medical record and Patient Referral Form?

- Fax: 781-337-0069
- Email: southshorereferral@vca.com

Please note: Radioiodine treatment is not a same day service. Appointments for treatment are made after the initial consultation with one of our specialists.

For your convenience, we now see specialty appointments 7 days a week.

Referral Department (Direct): 781-335-4919 ♦ Please feel free to call with any questions!

595 Columbian Street ♦ South Weymouth, MA 02190 ♦ 781-337-6622