



## **Diagnostic Workup for Radioactive Iodine Treatment (I-131)**

The diagnostic workup prior to I-131 is to minimize any chance of serious underlying disease that might cause problems either during hospitalization for I-131 or shortly thereafter. Despite this, there remains a remote possibility, especially in older cats that concurrent underlying disease exists and will not be detected.

The diagnostic workup can be performed at BluePearl Levittown or at the primary veterinarian's hospital, however must be completed within the 30 days prior to treatment.

The diagnostic workup includes:

- T4 at diagnosis of hyperthyroidism and/or highest level recorded (please forward previous labwork)
- Current labwork: CBC, chemistry, T4, and urinalysis
- Chest and abdominal radiographs (**Lateral and V/D** - radiographs not necessary if abdominal ultrasound is performed)
- If the cat is on methimazole, it is advised that the methimazole be discontinued 14 days prior to treatment, if possible. A T4 should be measured at 1 week post-discontinuation and sent to us as soon as possible (needed to order appropriate dose of I-131). **Please submit this T4 to an outside lab, as most in-house machines do not read high enough.** If unable to safely discontinue methimazole, please contact Dr. Klag. We can still proceed by making some adjustments to the patient's protocol. If the cat is on the y/d diet, we recommend discontinuation of this diet three weeks prior to treatment, with a final T4 one week prior to treatment.
- *Optional diagnostics:* Abdominal ultrasound and cardiac evaluation with echocardiogram are advised but not required. It can be helpful in determining an underlying problem that would influence the decision to proceed with treatment. We can facilitate the scheduling of these appointments. These would need to be scheduled in advance.

## **Post Treatment Follow Up**

- At one month and three months post-treatment, full labwork (CBC/chemistry/T4) should be performed – this can be done with the primary veterinarian