



## **CLIENT INFORMATION SHEET FOR CATS TREATED WITH RADIOACTIVE IODINE (I131)**

This information sheet is very important, please read it carefully before collecting your cat from the clinic and follow the recommendations for your cat's care after Iodine 131 treatment.

If you are unsure about anything listed below or if you have any further queries, please call us on 03 348 4885

### **For the next 2 weeks after your cat is discharged:**

- Avoid long periods (more than a few minutes) in close proximity to your cat, particularly during the first week. It is safe to pick him/her up for short periods but they should not sit on anyone's lap for extended periods or sleep next to you/anyone else on a bed
- Avoid "face-to-face" contact. Don't allow your cat to lick you. Wash your hands after handling them, especially before eating.
- If your cat urinates or vomits inside the household, the urine should be cleaned up thoroughly with paper towels, which are then placed in a rubbish bag. Use rubber gloves for this, and wash your hands very thoroughly afterwards. If the urine has soaked into garments or carpets they should be washed thoroughly. Garments should be washed separately in a washing machine.
- If your cat uses a "dirt box", keep this in an unoccupied area. Use a waterproof disposable lining. Wear rubber gloves when cleaning it out.
- Make sure your cat cannot jump up onto the kitchen bench, or get onto anywhere that food is placed.

If the above instructions are followed the risk from the radiation will be negligible. If you feel for any reason that you are not able to follow these instructions then please contact us to discuss this further. We are happy to hospitalise cats for an extra two weeks after the initial 5-7 day period. There will be an extra charge per day for this

Please arrange with your usual veterinary clinic for **follow up blood tests in approximately three months** time. The success rate is approximately 95%. A small number of cats may need further treatment to control an overactive thyroid in which case your veterinarian can advise you of this and arrange more treatment