

# I-131 Therapy



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## Education

Purdue University, DVM – 1997

## Internship

Garden State Veterinary Specialists – 1998

## Internal Medicine Residency

University of Pennsylvania – 2001

## Specialty Board Certification

ACVIM – American College of Veterinary  
Internal Medicine – Small Animal – 2003  
RSO – Certified Radiation Safety  
Officer - 2018

## Professional Affiliations

AVMA, IVMA, CIVMA, AHS, AAHA

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## A Single Injection Of I-131 Can Eliminate Hyperthyroidism

### The Process

Cats are admitted each Monday and Tuesday for I-131 therapy. Baseline blood work, chest x-rays, and blood pressure evaluation is needed and can be provided by the referring veterinarian during the week prior to I-131 therapy. Additionally, if a cardiac assessment is needed, this can be done the day of admission at IndyVet, or may be performed by the referring veterinarian the week before I-131 therapy. Methimazole therapy should be stopped at least one week prior to admission. All data previously collected by the referring veterinarian should be submitted to IndyVet so that it can be reviewed at the time of referral.

Once the patient is admitted, they are further examined to assure that they are good candidates for I-131 therapy. Those that are fully qualified are treated on the day of admission and are maintained in a specially designed radiation containment housing ward in the hospital. The patient's radiation levels are monitored closely until they can be safely released, usually on the third day after admission in the afternoon or evening.

### Why I-131 Therapy?

Hyperthyroidism is a very common disease that affects older cats causing a variety of symptoms including hyperactivity, weight loss, excessive appetite, hypertension, and heart disease.

Hyperthyroidism is caused by a tumor of the thyroid glands which causes the release of excessive amounts of thyroid hormone. Therapy has included medication which blocks the manufacture of thyroid hormone, surgery, and radioactive iodine therapy.

Iodine 131 is a radioactive isotope which is very effective in treating hyperthyroidism non-surgically in cats and is considered the best therapy available for hyperthyroidism. A single injection of I-131 will eliminate the disease by destroying the tumor in the thyroid gland. When the I-131 isotope is injected into the patient, the iodine is selectively taken up by the thyroid gland where the radiation given off by the isotope locally irradiates the tumor and destroys it. Other organs in the body are minimally affected and the patient does not have to endure the stress and pain of surgery.



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## What do I need to know?

Although cats are within the safety guidelines developed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for radiation exposure at the time of discharge, owners are instructed on the safe handling of the cat's litter and waste during the following two weeks to minimize any possible radiation exposure to the pet owner.

A re-check appointment 7 to 10 days after treatment is recommended. It is also recommended that the kidney, liver, and thyroid values be re-tested at 30 days post treatment. The re-check appointments may be scheduled at the office of the referring veterinarian, or at IndyVet.

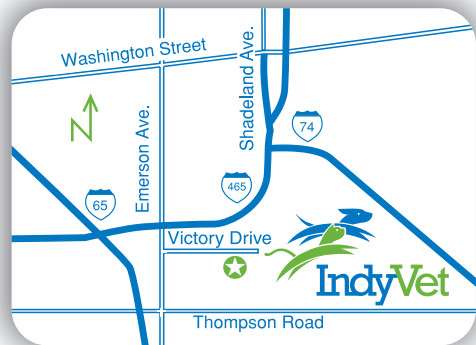
We are very pleased to have the capability to offer this state of the art treatment for feline hyperthyroidism and are happy to answer any further questions you may have about this treatment. Just call our office at 317-782-4484, or e-mail us at [medicine@indyvet.com](mailto:medicine@indyvet.com).



## Commitment To Care

Upon arrival, each patient's history is reviewed by a doctor prior to performing a detailed examination. Each doctor can immediately collaborate with any of the other specialists, in order to provide the best care possible within the financial means of the client. Each client is treated with kindness, sensitivity and empathy. We understand that this can be an anxious time for clients and we aim to make each visit as calm and efficient as possible.

IndyVet is an American Animal Hospital Association accredited hospital. AAHA is the only organization that inspects and accredits veterinary practices in North America. Every three years, AAHA evaluates approximately 900 standards of veterinary excellence in order to remain accredited. Less than 15% of veterinary practices in the United States hold the "AAHA accredited" designation.



Exit I-465 & Emerson • Turn East at Steak 'n Shake



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