



## Radioiodine Referral Guidelines and Checklist

Thank you for choosing Veterinary Imaging Center of San Diego. We are excited to provide you and your clients with an exceptional radioiodine referral experience. At VICSD, each patient is thoroughly evaluated and screened prior to treatment. In order to perform this evaluation we will need some information from you. Please review the following guidelines and complete the checklist when referring cats for radioiodine therapy.

**Tapazole Trial:** At VICSD, we request a Tapazole trial prior to treatment. The Tapazole trial is necessary to evaluate the renal function in your patient. In short, hyperthyroidism may mask renal disease and we are attempting to determine if renal disease will be present after radioiodine therapy.

After diagnosing your patient with hyperthyroidism, please start your patient on Tapazole. Your patient must be kept on tapazole until thyroid levels have reached a therapeutic level which usually occurs in about one month. After 1 month, please re-check your patients lab work (Chemistry/CBC/T4/UA) to evaluate your patients renal function and thyroid status. After the Tapazole trial, your patient can either remain on Tapazole until their treatment date or discontinue use 2 weeks before their appointment.

Once the tapazole trial is complete and you have collected all the required information, please send the following items to us prior to the treatment date:

- VICSD Radioiodine Therapy Referral Form
- Hyperthyroidism diagnosis lab work (Thyroid Panel), exam notes, and current weight.
- Lab Work (Chemistry/FELV/FIV/CBC/UA) obtained at the time of diagnosis
- Lab Work (Chemistry/CBC/UA) obtained after the Tapazole trial. Your patient must be kept on Tapazole until therapeutic levels are reached which typically occurs in one month. NOTE: All lab work must be current and the most recent lab work must be obtained within 1 month before the treatment date.
- Whole body radiographs obtained within one month of treatment. Please send these radiographs to VICSD prior to the treatment date.

Thank you for choosing VICSD. Once we receive this information, one of our staff members will contact your client to discuss scheduling an appointment.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 858-634-5430.