Radioactive iodine ($^{131}$I) treatment is a safe and highly effective method of treating hyperthyroidism in cats. It involves a single injection of $^{131}$I given under the skin. The iodine is taken up by the thyroid tissue where it releases radiation resulting in destruction of the diseased thyroid tissue.

After treatment, your pet will be housed in a special isolation suite until radiation levels are low enough for him or her to go home. On your initial visit, one of our Small Animal Internal Medicine doctors will examine your cat and discuss the procedure in depth with you. In order to determine whether $^{131}$I is a safe and appropriate treatment for your cat, blood and urine testing are recommended before treatment begins. Based on our evaluation of your pet, we may also recommend imaging studies.

A single $^{131}$I treatment is curative in over 95% of cats with essentially no negative side effects.