Could your hyperthyroid cat be hiding something?

The Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine is conducting a study of kidney disease in hyperthyroid cats

Eligibility

All stable hyperthyroid cats that are not azotemic (i.e. increased creatinine) before radioiodine therapy (131I). Cats may be included if they have developed azotemia while on therapy (methimazole or y/d) as long as they are not azotemic at the time of presentation for 131I.

WHAT IS BEING STUDIED?

Many older cats suffer from both hyperthyroidism and chronic kidney disease (CKD). It can be difficult to diagnose underlying CKD in cats with hyperthyroidism because some symptoms of hyperthyroidism can mask kidney disease. This study aims to evaluate a biomarker called SDMA in hyperthyroid cats to determine if it can help identify cats with underlying kidney disease and improve treatment outcomes.

WHAT IS REQUIRED?

Enrolled cats will have a total of 4 study-related visits: 1) a screening and enrollment visit for 131I treatment. See website for details: https://www.vetmed.vt.edu/vth/services/radioactive-iodine.asp; 2-4) Follow-up visits at 1, 3, and 6 months post treatment, at the veterinary teaching hospital or the referring veterinarian. The cost of study-related tests is included. Owners are responsible for the cost of the radioiodine treatment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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This study is being conducted jointly with VCA Veterinary Referral Associates in Gaithersburg, MD.

Research reviewed and approved by the Virginia Tech IACUC and the board of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.