

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: NRC-2015-0020

Nuclear Request for Sodium Iodide I-131 Treatment and Patient Release Information

Comment On: NRC-2015-0020-0014

Sodium Iodide I-131 Patient Release Information Collection; Request for Information

Document: NRC-2015-0020-DRAFT-0028

Comment on FR Doc # 2015-29027

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Submitter Information**Name:** Claire Strathdee**Address:**20 Forest Glen Court
Ispwch, Queensland, Australia, 4300**Email:** psrathde@bigpond.net.au

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RULES AND DIRECTIVES
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1/1/15**General Comment**

Hello my name is Claire and I am from Australia. I am part of a brilliant Facebook community called LID Life Community and they have encouraged me to share my information even though I am not in America. RAI treatment is different in Australia from what i have experienced and read from others. I will explained how the process was for me. Hopefully hearing how others have treatment will provide some insight.

March 22 2013 - Papillary Carcinoma diagnosis - found from Ultrasound and Fine needle biopsy.

April 2013- meet with Endocrinologist, surgery explained.

May 23rd 2013 - Total Thyroidectomy and 10 lymph nodes

May 25th 2013- Released from hospital

August 12th 2013 - Meet with Oncologist - RAI explained and RAI treatment booked.

Preparations: Limited diet - basically no seafood or products from the sea. e.g. seaweed. Also advised that I would be having Thyrogen injections and therefore diet wasn't as restricted and i could keep taking my medication.

August 24th & 25th 2013- Thyrogen injections as local doctors.

August 26th 2013 - Blood tests, pregnancy test, chest x-rays in the morning. RAI pill in the afternoon. I had a low dose. 1000MBq of I-131. Hospital isolation starts. Flush toilet twice after urination and 3 times after defecation. Shower at least 3 times a day. Drink plenty of fluids and rest. They were my instructions. When food was delivered to my room i had to go to the en suite for the furthest part of the room away from the door.

I wasn't to move the table food was placed on, i had to move the tray to the other part of the room and eat

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there.

August 29th 2013- I was tested the with Geiger metre and then taken for my scans. I had whole body planar images from skull vertex to thighs, chest and neck static views followed by low dose SPECT/CT examination of the neck.

My oncologist advised of the results several hours later and i was allowed to go home. "Cancer free at this stage" was what I was told. That was all. (this was hardest part, no mention of recurrence chances, no mention of uptake etc)

At home i had some restrictions but not as many as i thought i would. I was able to hug my children but on for a few minutes and then i had to keep my distance. Flushing twice and sleeping apart from my husband for a few days.

After a few days i was able to return to normal contact with my family.

I wasn't prepared for the isolation and the emotions when in hospital. The lost of taste was a surprise, i wasn't told about this or any other side effects from the hospital. I found out about nausea, loss of taste etc from my support groups.

I am doing well and so far so good in regards to recurrence.

Moving forward I would like to see more information shared from the medical teams. We need to know about support groups, we need to understand how the RAI works in the body, understand the risk to ourselves and others. We need understand the risk we pose to others in not in isolation in hospital.

From my understanding isolation isn't done in hospitals in America, to be honest this scares me. I truly hope my information has been helpful. Thank you for wanting to make a change, thank you for letting patients have a voice and thank you for reading. Have a good day.

Kind Regards

Claire Strathdee
Ipswich, Queensland, Australia.