

Standard ACTH Stimulation Test

Effective Date: April 18, 2018

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This document is applicable at site(s):

UAH

Purpose

Used in the investigation of suspected adrenal insufficiency.

NOTE: Clinical assessment of patient should be considered prior to any dynamic testing.

Test should **NOT** be used:

- to diagnose secondary hypoadrenalism in patients with recent pituitary insult
- in patients with a primary diagnosis of Cushing's disease
- in acutely ill patients (i.e. trauma, sepsis)

Procedure

1. No strenuous exercise prior to or during the test.
2. Draw a baseline cortisol sample.
3. Inject (IV or IM) 250µg ACTH (1-24).
4. Draw samples for cortisol at 30 and 60 minutes post-injection.

Reference Range

An increase of at least 196 nmol/L over baseline excludes the diagnosis of primary adrenal insufficiency.

An abnormal or blunted response should be interpreted in conjunction with other clinical and laboratory data.

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