

## Auburn Endocrine Diagnostic Service

### **ACTH Response Testing in Dogs with Cushing's Disease treated with TRILOSTANE**

Periodic ACTH response testing is recommended in all dogs with Cushing's disease treated with Trilostane (Vetoryl)

#### General guidelines for ACTH Response Testing

1. ACTH response testing is recommended 10 to 14 days after starting on trilostane. The test should be carried out 4 to 8 hours (ideally, 4-6 hours) after a dose of trilostane.
2. ACTH response tests should be carried out 10-14 days after any dosage adjustment.
3. Once a good dose has been established, it is ideal to perform ACTH response testing 30 and 90 days after establishing the dose and then every 3 months.

#### Interpretation of Specific Results With the ACTH Response Test

In our lab, ideal values for a dog on trilostane are pre- and post-ACTH cortisol between **30 and 150 nmol/L**.

The dose should be reduced or stopped if cortisol values are lower than these values. If values are higher, adjustment **may or may not** be needed. If the patient is showing a good clinical response, it may be best to NOT adjust the dose. Usually though, dogs continue to display clinical signs if cortisol values are above 250 nmol/L.