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.

April 2011