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### **ASY-852.5: Protocol for peripheral ovine CRH test in differential diagnosis of ACTH dependent Cushing's syndrome.**

- a** Fluids only from 2400h.
- b** Test to commence between 0900h and 1000h in an active phase of Cushing's syndrome (if cyclical) and clear of any adrenolytic therapy.
- c** Sample times:
  - i** -15 min
  - ii** -1 min
- d** Give 1µg/kg oCRH over 1 minute IV following time -1 sample
  - i** 15 min
  - ii** 30 min
  - iii** 45 min
  - iv** 60 min
  - v** 90 min
- e** Hormones to be measured ACTH and cortisol.
- f** May be combined with IPSS at the discretion of the clinician ordering the test, with peripheral samples for cortisol and ACTH at above times (15 to 90 minutes) in addition to the IPSS protocol. There is no indication to perform further inferior petrosal sinus ACTH levels beyond 10 minutes.

### **ASY-852.6: Interpretation**

An increase in ACTH concentration of >35% of the mean basal concentration at time 15 + 30 minutes distinguishes pituitary from ectopic ACTH with 100% specificity. Some patients with Cushing's disease will not demonstrate this degree of increase (sensitivity 93%). Cortisol should increase by >20% over mean basal concentration at time 30 + 45 minutes.

### **ASY-852.7: Reference**

Nieman et al, 1993. JCEM 77: 1308-12

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