

Speed™ Cortisol

Veterinary diagnostic test
For *in vitro* use only

Fluorescence immunoassay test for the quantitative measurement of cortisol in canine serum.

CLINICAL APPLICATION

Cortisol is secreted by the adrenal glands under the control of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis. The measurement of cortisol in blood contributes to the screening and diagnosis of hyperadrenocorticism (Cushing's syndrome) and hypoadrenocorticism (Addison's disease) in dogs.

PRINCIPLE

Speed™ Cortisol is a rapid immunochromatographic quantitative test providing an assay of the circulating cortisol by laser-induced fluorescence analysis.

PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

SAMPLE

- Use only **serum**. Do not use whole blood or plasma.
 - No interference with haemolysis or hyperlipaemia has been seen.
 - If the test is not performed within an hour, transfer the serum to a dry tube.
- Serum:**
- Serum samples can be stored in a refrigerator (+2°C to +8°C) for up to 7 days.
 - For testing beyond 7 days, the serum should be stored in a freezer (-20°C).
 - Stored samples should be allowed to reach room temperature (18°C to 27°C) and be centrifuged before analysis.
 - The presence of fibrin strands in the sample may lead to erroneous assay results due to pipette clogging and reduced volume of aspirated sample. In this case, recentrifuge the sample.

PROPER PIPETTE USAGE

- Hold the pipette, the sample and reagent tubes vertically at all times, to ensure the correct sampling volume.
- Use a new disposable pipette tip for each test.
- Press and hold the pipette plunger and insert the tip into the sample, being careful not to touch the walls of the tube. Release the pipette plunger slowly while keeping the end of the tip in the sample.
- Remove the pipette from the sample tube and check for air bubbles in the tip. If air bubbles are present, discard the sample and repeat the sampling.

REAGENT AND SAMPLE MIXTURE

- To ensure correct migration of the sample, place the test device on a horizontal surface.
- The reagent tube contains a standard quantity of reagent. Any alteration of this quantity can lead to erroneous assay results.
- Do not keep the mixture for subsequent analysis.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Before using the first test of each box, register the lot calibration chip at the Speed Reader™.
- The expiry date is indicated on the box and on each test pouch.
- Store the tests and the reagents between +2°C and +8°C.
- The specimen and all the materials used for the test procedure should be considered as potentially infectious and they should be disposed of in accordance with local regulations.
- Use appropriate and clean protective equipment (gloves and gown).
- In case of skin or eye contact with the reagent, rinse immediately with clean water and ask for medical advice.

TEST PROCEDURE

Speed™ Cortisol cannot be visually interpreted and should be read only with a Speed Reader™ analyser. For complete instructions, please refer to the Speed Reader™ analyser operator's guide.

- Do not mix test devices, reagent tubes and calibration chips from different batches.
- Allow the reagent and the test device to reach room temperature (18°C to 27°C) for at least 30 minutes before use.

MATERIALS FOR EACH TEST

1 test device, 1 reagent tube, 1 dropper cap, 1 pipette tip and the 50µL pipette

SPEED READER™ PREPARATION

- Press "New Test" on the main screen before starting the test procedure.
- Follow the on-screen instructions.

SAMPLE TRANSFER

- Using the tip of the dropper cap, perforate the aluminium foil in order to open the reagent tube.
- Place a new disposable tip on the pipette.
- Transfer 50 µL of the sample into the reagent tube, following the instructions for correct pipette usage.

- Carefully seal the reagent tube with the dropper cap.
- Gently mix the contents by inverting the tube at least 5 times. DO NOT SHAKE.
- Leave the sample/reagent mixture to stand for 5 minutes. It is important to adhere to the exact timing of this step. After 5 minutes, use the sample/reagent mixture immediately.

SAMPLE APPLICATION

- Remove the plastic cover from the dropper cap and discard the first 2 drops of the mixture, to wash out the dead space.
- Completely remove the cartridge from Speed Reader™ and add 2 drops of the mixture into the sample well of the test device.

READING

- Insert the test device into the Speed Reader™'s cartridge holder when prompted by the analyser, in the direction indicated by the arrow (the sample well first) and follow the on-screen instructions.
- Read the result on the screen.

INTERPRETATION

Cortisol concentrations are measured in nmol/L. Dynamic range: 30 nmol/L to 800 nmol/L. Reference values:

nmol/L	ACTH STIMULATION TEST				
Pre-ACTH	< 55		55 - 165		
Post-ACTH	< 55	55 - 165	165 - 497	497 - 607	>607
INTERPRETATION	Consistent with hypoadrenocorticism	Consistent with iatrogenic HAC	Normal	Doubtful	Consistent with HAC

Abbreviations: HAC: hyperadrenocorticism
Conversion: 1 µg/dL = 27.59 nmol/L

These recommendations are for guidance only. The aim of this test is to measure canine cortisol blood concentrations. Interpretation of the result by the veterinarian should always take into account the history, clinical examination and any further diagnostic test results, as no diagnostic method is 100% accurate. The definitive diagnosis is the prerogative and responsibility of the veterinarian. Bio Veto Test and its distributors cannot be held responsible for any consequences linked to incorrect use of this test or misinterpretation of the results.

