

Technical Bulletin

Endocrinology – Dexamethasone Suppression

UPDATED PROTOCOL FOR DEXAMETHASONE SUPPRESSION TESTING IN THE HORSE

Dexamethasone Suppression Protocol:

1. Begin test between 4-6 PM.
2. Draw a pre-injection blood sample into a SST or RTT and label “PRE”.
3. Inject 40 ug/kg of DEXAMETHASONE intramuscularly.
4. Nineteen hours post-injection, draw a blood sample into a SST or RTT and label “POST-19”.
5. Submit both samples at one time. Blood samples should be centrifuged, the serum separated, placed in a clean tube, and refrigerated or frozen until submitted to the Laboratory.

Please add this information to your Test Directory

**Dexamethasone Suppression, Equine 19 HR
2038**

\$25.00

CEDIA

Specimen Required: 1 SST or 1 RTT, for each draw (two samples)

Minimum: 0.5 ml serum, each sample

Protocol as described above.

Normal Test Value: See Report

Day(s) Test Set Up: Monday through Saturday
(AM/PM)

Turnaround Time: Same day

Comments: This procedure is the currently recommended protocol for confirmation of equine Cushing's disease.