

Trilostane Treatment in Canine Cushing's

Summary

Spontaneous hyperadrenocorticism (*Cushing's*) is a common clinical syndrome in dogs, resulting from excessive circulating cortisol concentrations. This is usually caused by an ACTH secreting pituitary tumour (85% cases) but occasionally results from an adrenal gland tumour. Recently "Vetoryl" (active drug: *trilostane*) has been licensed for treatment of canine Cushing's disease. Trilostane blocks the normal adrenal steroidogenesis pathways, causing a reduction in circulating hormone concentrations in many affected cases.

Unlike mitotane, Trilostane is given daily for life. Initial starting dose varies but a common daily starting dose is approximately 60 mg (*dogs between 5-20kg*), 120mg (*dogs between 20-40kg*) and 120-240mg (*dogs >40kg*). Monitoring should consist of:

Clinical evaluation within 2-4 weeks

ACTH stimulation testing: perform 4 hours after giving that day's Vetoryl medication

Vetoryl Monitoring Protocol

Collect fasted whole blood sample four hours after giving Vetoryl

Administer 250µg ACTH (*Synacthen*) intramuscularly

Collect second whole blood sample one hour later

Label tubes "pre" and "post" accordingly

Submit to Axiom and indicate that dog is receiving Trilostane therapy

Results and full interpretation will be available on the day of receipt (*Mon-Fri*)

If required, endocrine staff will be available to discuss the case further at no extra charge

Further Information

For further information on canine hyperadrenocorticism or Trilostane therapy in particular please feel free to call Axiom where one of the veterinary clinical pathologists will be happy to help. Alternatively the following references may be of interest:

Neiger, R. and Hurley, K. (2000) Long term efficacy and safety of trilostane for treatment of canine hyperadrenocorticism, *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine*, 124, 376

Neiger, R. and Hurley, K. (2001) 24 Hour cortisol values in dogs with hyperadrenocorticism on trilostane. Proceedings of the BSAVA congress, Birmingham, p549.

Hurley, K.J. (1998) Trilostane in the treatment of canine hyperadrenocorticism. ESVIM congress, Vienna