



PHAEOCHROMOCYTOMA

Normetanephrine/Creatinine Ratio

- Diagnosis of phaeochromocytoma (PC) is based on a combination of clinical suspicion, finding an adrenal mass and measuring plasma or urine catecholamine metabolites such as normetanephrine. Confirmation is by histopathology.
- Affected dogs may present with weakness, polyuria/polydipsia, panting, restlessness, anxiety, weight loss or muscle wasting. Consequently, hyperadrenocorticism is a common differential diagnosis and finding an adrenal mass can cause confusion without further laboratory tests
- In canine patients urine normetanephrine can be easily measured in an acidified urine sample.
- Normetanephrine/Creatinine ratio (NCR) is the best parameter to differentiate dogs with PC from healthy dogs, dogs with hyperadrenocorticism or non-adrenal disease.
- Dogs with PC have a very high NCR (> 400), compared to normal young dogs (< 100) or those with hyperadrenocorticism or non-adrenal disease
- Easy to use service, just submit 20mL of acidified urine.



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