

Hypertension/Hypokalaemia investigation

Plasma renin activity, baseline aldosterone, Sodium, Potassium, Na:K ratio & Aldo:PRA ratio

Special sampling is required for Plasma Renin Activity, 2mLs frozen EDTA plasma is required, please contact the laboratory for details and a special transport pack. Aldosterone is a 1.0mL serum sample.

Plasma Renin Activity

- When aldosterone output is elevated it is helpful to know whether it is appropriate and due to renin-angiotensin stimulation or autonomous and inappropriate.
- When you have a hypertensive patient it may be useful to be able to clarify the origin of their hypertension.
- Also to assess a cardiac patient's dependence on activated renin-angiotensin-aldosterone before initiating ACE inhibition therapy or monitor their physiological response to it.

Special sampling is required for Renin, 2mLs frozen EDTA plasma

Aldosterone

Aldosterone levels may be useful in the differential diagnosis of primary and secondary Addison's disease and to assess the degree of function of the mineralocorticoid producing areas of the adrenals.

- Confirm primary hypoadrenocorticism in an animal which has been receiving steroid therapy prior to diagnosis
- Differentiate primary from secondary hypoadrenocorticism
- Investigate hypokalaemia
- Assess renin-angiotensin dependency in cardiac patients prior to ACE inhibition
- Assess mineralocorticoid effect of anti-adrenal therapy Trilostane (Vetroyl[®] Hard Capsules), Mitotane (Lysodren[®])

Aldosterone is a 1.0mL serum sample

For further information contact **NationWide Specialist Laboratories** Units S5 and S6, The Saxon Building, Eastern Counties Leather Industrial Estate, London Road, Pampisford, Cambridge, CB22 3FJ T. **01223 493400** email: csls.info@nwlabs.co.uk

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