

# ENDOGENOUS ACTH (Equine)

## SAMPLE REQUIRED:

EDTA plasma (preferable) (2 mL) or  
EDTA whole blood (4 mL)

## BLOOD TUBE REQUIRED:

EDTA plasma in a plain (non-additive) tube, or  
EDTA whole blood (purple top)

### Test Use:

To aid in the diagnosis of pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction (PPID; equine Cushing's disease).

### Protocol:

- Collect blood into an EDTA tube, ensuring that the tube is filled to the line. Gently mix by inversion.
- Chill the sample within 3 hours of collection.
- Separate the plasma from the red blood cells by centrifugation or by gravity.
- Pipette off the EDTA-anticoagulated plasma into a plain plastic tube (no additive).
- Transport the sample to the laboratory with ice packs (chilled).
- If delays of greater than 48 hours are expected between sample collection and analysis at the lab the plasma sample should be frozen. Do not freeze whole blood.
- Submission of whole blood in EDTA may still provide meaningful results if received by the laboratory within 24-48 hours of collection.