



Urinary Cortisol: Creatinine Ratio (UCCR)

The UCCR is a useful screening test for canine hyperadrenocorticism as a low (normal) result makes Cushing's unlikely (approximately 90% sensitivity). It is useful in those cases where hyperadrenocorticism is unlikely but needs to be definitely excluded. The test has low specificity (there are a lot of false positives). Further tests are needed to confirm that a high result is due to hyperadrenocorticism. It is thought that the test has similar sensitivity and specificity in cats but there are few published reports.

The urinary cortisol: creatinine ratio may be used as a screening test on urinary samples collected at home by the owners. Patients with elevated UCCR may then be tested with the low dose dexamethasone test.

Test interpretation

- Ratio $< 17.5 \times 10^6$ Cushing's is unlikely
- Ratio $> 17.5 \times 10^6$ Cushing's may be present

Collection protocol:

- Collect a morning urine sample. To avoid false positive, stress should be minimised in the 24 hours prior to collection, and avoid testing unwell patients.
- Submit sample with a request for urinary cortisol and creatinine ratio.



Species:
Canine & feline



Specimen:
Urine



Container:
Sterile pot