

Hormone test (Synacthen)

The Synacthen hormone test investigates the production of the adrenocorticotropic hormone.

Preparation

The paediatrician will consult you to determine when this test takes place. At the agreed time, you'll report to the Paediatric Ward. Your child does not need to have an empty stomach.

Test

Once you and your child have reported to the Paediatric Ward, he/she will first be weighed.

An hour before the test, the nurse will place 1 or 2 bandages with anaesthetic cream on the possible sites for the insertion of the IV with drainage valve.

After removing the bandages, the paediatrician will insert a needle for an IV line with a valve for draining blood. The nurse will draw blood from the valve every 30 minutes. After taking the first blood sample, the doctor will administer the test fluid through the IV. During the test, your child will be on bed rest.

Duration

The test takes approximately 2 hours.

After the test

After the test, your child may mobilise and return home.

The results

You'll get the test results when you visit the paediatrician at the outpatient clinic. You'll need to schedule this appointment yourself.

Questions

If you have any questions about the hormone test, the nurses will be glad to provide you with additional information.

• Outpatient Clinic Paediatrics:

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