



# Synacthen Test Prior to Procedure

Parent/Caregiver/Whānau Information – Neonatal Services

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Your pēpi/baby requires an investigation called Synacthen testing.

The test is done mainly to assess the function of the adrenal cortex (the outer region of the adrenal gland) and measures the amount of cortisol (a hormone produced by the adrenal glands) that the body will produce in response to a measured dose of Synacthen.

The test will involve taking bloods then administering Synacthen either into a vein or intramuscularly, followed by a further blood test.

## **Prior to procedure**

Your pēpi can have feed as normal but must not take any steroid medication before the test.

## **Following the procedure**

There are no specific requirements post the blood tests and you will be informed of the results by the medical team.

