



*Better  
Together*

## Patient information

### **Growth Hormone Day Curve: On treatment**

Division of medicine: Royal Liverpool Hospital and  
Broadgreen Hospital

## **What is a growth hormone day curve - on treatment?**

A growth hormone day curve - on treatment is a series of blood samples. You are probably already taking medication to control your growth hormone levels if you have been asked to come for this test.

## **Why do I need this test?**

To see how well your growth hormone levels are controlled by your medication. It also tells us if the dose of your medication needs to be changed

## **Before the test**

- If you are taking Octreotide LAR injections you do not need to miss any injections before your test.
- If you are taking Octreotide subcutaneous injections, you need to stop taking these 24 hours before your test.
- If you are taking Bromocriptine you need to stop taking this for 48 hours before your test.
- If you are taking Cabergoline you need to stop taking this for seven days before your test.

This is so when we take the first blood test we can see what your growth hormone level is without treatment. You do not have to stop eating or drinking for this test.

## **What happens during the test?**

- You will be given an appointment to attend ward 9B. On the day of your test a nurse will check your details and explain the test to you. You will be on the ward for about eight hours.

- A nurse will put a small tube (cannula) into your vein and all blood samples will be taken from this tube, which means you will not have to have lots of needles.
- We will then take a blood sample to measure the level of growth hormone in your blood. If you are taking Octreotide, subcutaneous injections or Bromocriptine/Cabergoline tablets, we will then give you your usual dose.
- We will then take a blood sample at the same time every hour until the test has finished.
- We will give you something to eat and drink during your time with us.
- When the test is finished, the cannula will then be taken out and you will be able to go home straight away.
- You can carry on with your injections as usual when the test has finished.

### **Are there any risks or side effects?**

Any risks or side effects may be due to the insertion of the cannula. These may include pain, redness or swelling at the injection site.

### **Are there any other tests available?**

There are no alternatives to this test.

### **What will happen if I do not have the test?**

We may not be able to see if you are on the right dose of medication to control your growth hormone levels.

## **When will I get the results?**

The results will be sent to your consultant who will tell you at your next clinic appointment.

## **Further Information**

**If you have any worries or questions about the test or the date is inconvenient please contact Ward 9B**

**Tel: 0151 706 2396 / 2398.**

**Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 2396/2398**

**[www.pituitary.org.uk](http://www.pituitary.org.uk)**

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