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**Vetoryl CPD for Vets**  
on the homepage

**Password: Vetoryl**

Watch the short videos from  
**Professor Stijn Niessen** on the treatment  
and monitoring of Cushing's disease and  
the importance of looking at the clinical  
picture and measuring the quality-of-life  
for both pets and their owners.



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## Monitoring a dog on Vetoryl®

Vetoryl® is a medicine that delivers major clinical benefits to your patient. Every dog with Cushing's is different, in their clinical presentation of the disease as well as in their response to Vetoryl®. Personalised monitoring is required to ensure the appropriate dose for that patient is obtained. After initiation of treatment, it needs to be ensured that the prescribed dose of Vetoryl® is safe and adequate to control the clinical signs of Cushing's.

***It is important to understand WHY Vetoryl® monitoring is needed, and WHAT the results of monitoring can deliver***

The aims of Vetoryl® monitoring are to:



Ensure improved quality-of-life of dogs and as a result their owner's quality-of-life



Identify whether dogs are on an adequate dose of Vetoryl® to control the clinical signs of Cushing's



Identify dogs that are unwell, whether the problem is due to Vetoryl® or something else

### Gaining the clinical picture

Assessment of serum cortisol concentrations alone is unreliable for the monitoring of Cushing's therefore paying particular attention to the clinical signs associated with Cushing's is vital to achieving treatment success. To do this, excellent owner communication is vital to truly understand how a dog is doing on Vetoryl®.



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a time that  
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# Four steps in monitoring dogs on Vetoryl®

For each monitoring consult, work through these steps

## 1. Cushing's Clinical Score

This has been developed to make it easy to record and keep track of the most important clinical signs. This can help you answer the following questions:

Is the dog showing signs of being unwell?  
Is the dog showing signs of Cushing's?  
Is the dog improving as expected following treatment?

Drinking/urination



Appearance



Appetite



Attitude/activity



## 2. Physical examination

This provides an opportunity to look for signs that the dog is unwell and/or has concurrent disease.

You are also able to check that your physical findings support the clinical history provided by the owner.

## 3. Quality-of-life

Consider the specific treatment needs for individual patients as well as their owners.

Use the scientifically validated tool CushQoL-pet questionnaire to help you communicate these discussions.



## 4. Cortisol assessment



My patient is unwell (vomiting, diarrhoea, off food)

Undertake an ACTH stimulation test



My patient is showing signs of Cushing's

Undertake a Pre-Vetoryl Cortisol



My patient is showing no signs of Cushing's

Undertake a Pre-Vetoryl Cortisol

Find out more: [www.dechra.co.uk/vetoryl-monitoring](http://www.dechra.co.uk/vetoryl-monitoring)

### References

- <sup>1</sup> Polyuria/polydipsia, polyphagia, panting & lethargy should resolve or improve in 1 month. Alopecia & pot belly appearance may take 3-6 months to resolve
- <sup>2</sup> Reassess history and consider Pre-Vetoryl ACTH Stimulation Test. Contact Dechra Technical Services for further information
- <sup>3</sup> If symptoms are not adequately controlled for an entire 24 hour inter-dose period, consider increasing the total daily dose by up to 50% and dividing it equally between morning and evening doses
- <sup>4</sup> Use combinations of capsule sizes to increase or decrease the once or twice daily dose
- <sup>5</sup> Dexamethasone to treat hypocortisolaemia, IV 0.9% NaCl to resolve dehydration & hyperkalaemia; alternatively hydrocortisone CRI and IV 0.9% NaCl

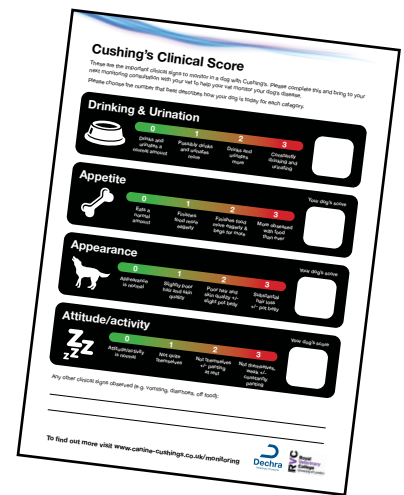
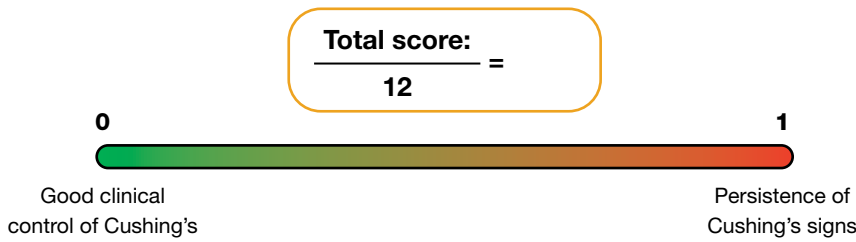
Vetoryl®:Vetoryl® contains trilostane

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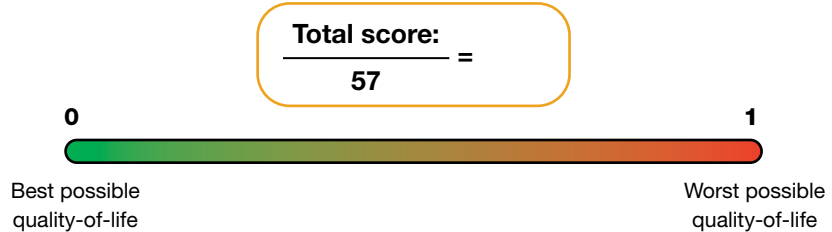
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## Interpretation of the Cushing's Clinical Score



## Interpretation of the CushQoL-pet Questionnaire



Changes in the score can be monitored over time.  
To help you interpret changes in score, see the following scale:



### Suitable dogs

- Once or twice daily Vetoryl dosing
- Adrenal – or pituitary-dependent hyperadrenocorticism (HAC)
- Clinically well dogs (with or without signs of HAC)
- Calm dogs

### Unsuitable dogs

- Aggressive dogs
- Stressed dogs (e.g. persistently barking)
- Unwell dogs

### Appointment

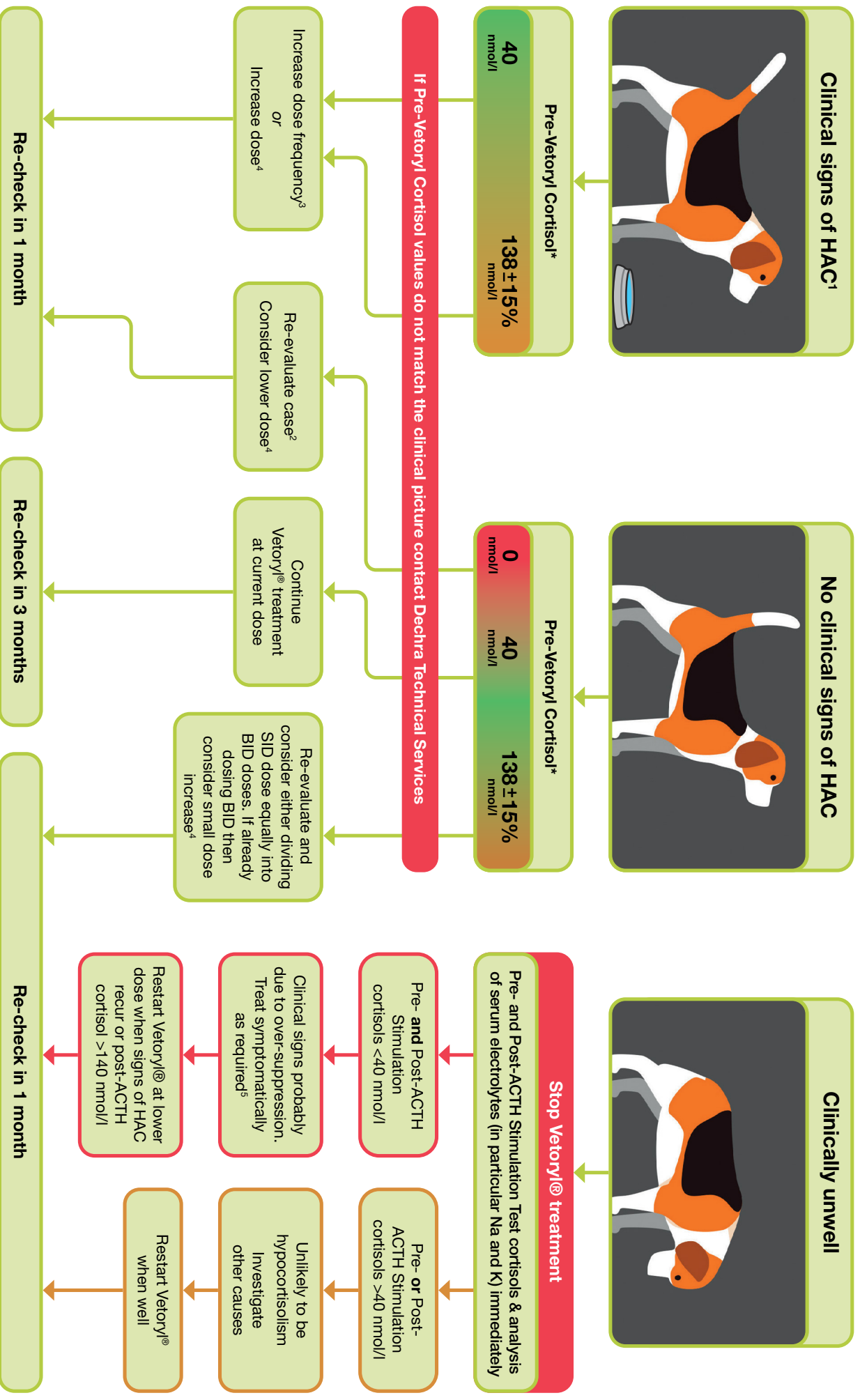
- First monitoring appointment should be 2-3 weeks after starting Vetoryl®.
- Book appointment just before the next Vetoryl® dose is due.
- If the dog is normally given Vetoryl® at an inconvenient time then ask owner to give at a convenient time from at least the day before.
- Make sure owner has not given Vetoryl® and that nothing stressful has happened that morning (e.g. vomiting, injury).
- When re-evaluating a patient receiving Vetoryl®, it is important to carefully consult with the owner regarding their dog's clinical response at home.

### Sample

- Take sample immediately after examination and before administration of Vetoryl®.
- 1 to 2 ml of blood in heparin or serum tube.
- Can be separated and stored for up to 1 week.
- Send to an external laboratory.

# How to monitor Cushing's

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\*These figures are based on the use of Siemens IMMULITE 1000/2000 analysers: other analysers may have different thresholds and veterinary surgeons should consult their laboratory if in doubt.