**ACTH (Corticotropin) Stimulation Test (Cosyntropin, Cortrosyn)**

In patients considered to have hypocortisolism, ACTH stimulation may be used to assess the ability of the adrenal cortex to respond and increase the serum cortisol.

**Procedure:**
1. Draw baseline serum cortisol in a 6 ml SST, lithium or sodium heparin tube, centrifuge and refrigerate. (Order test code 2120291: pre-ACTH cortisol at time 0.)
2. Immediately administer cortrosyn 0.25 mg IM (obtain from pharmacy).
3. Draw serum cortisol at 30 minutes and at 60 minutes. (Order test code 2120292: post-ACTH stimulation twice.)

**Interpretation:**
- Normal: Rise in plasma cortisol of > 7 ug/dl and peak response of > 18 ug/dl.
- Failure to respond: primary adrenal insufficiency.
- Blunted response to ACTH deficiency or prolonged glucocorticoid therapy.