

Table 1. Diurnal rhythm and mean daily concentrations of ACTH and Cort in patients with hypercortisolism (median, 10th and 90th percentiles; P₁ – p values of differences in comparison with the healthy group, P₂ – p values of differences in comparison with CD group).

Study group	Cortisol (nmol/l)				
	8:00	12:00	16:00	23:00	Mean daily
CD	825.0	838.5	679.5	700.0	766.0
	400-1409	560-1200	379-1368	438-1174	480-1149
	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001
ECT	936.5	948.5	606.0	656.0	843.5
	670-2200	625-1340	487-1555	591-1513	617.5-1361.8
	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001
ACTH-ind	P ₂ <0.001	P ₂ =0.271	P ₂ =0.611	P ₂ =0.567	P ₂ =0.127
	707.0	650.0	712.0	570.0	638.3
	289-906	520-1300	499-980	365-1205	536.8-1107.3
	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001
Healthy subjects	P ₂ =0.393	P ₂ =0.311	P ₂ =0.356	P ₂ =0.500	P ₂ =0.589
	427.0	156.0	192.0	51.0	208.5
	347-590	133-260	151-417	29-129	189.8-309.5
Study group	ACTH (pg/ml)*				
	8:00	12:00	16:00	12:00	Mean daily
CD	67.0	72.5	71.0	75.0	74.9
	37-120	50-110	41-100	32-135	43.2-111.8
	P ₁ =0.002	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001
ECT	150.5	137.5	115.0	107.5	127.3
	90-281	82-305	60-300	50-300	79.8-286.5
	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001
ACTH-ind	P ₂ <0.001	P ₂ <0.001	P ₂ =0.008	P ₂ =0.065	P ₂ <0.001
	7.0	5.0	6.0	4.0	6.3
	2-12	1-10	2-10	1-8	1.5-10.2
	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ <0.001	P ₁ =0.016	P ₁ <0.001
Healthy subjects	P ₂ <0.001	P ₂ <0.001	P ₂ <0.001	P ₂ <0.001	P<0.001
	46.8	37.0	25.0	8.8	31.0
	24-54	19-45	12-33	5-30	16-38

CD: Cushing’s disease, ECT: Ectopic, ACTH-ind: ACTH independent

* To convert to SI units multiply by 0.22