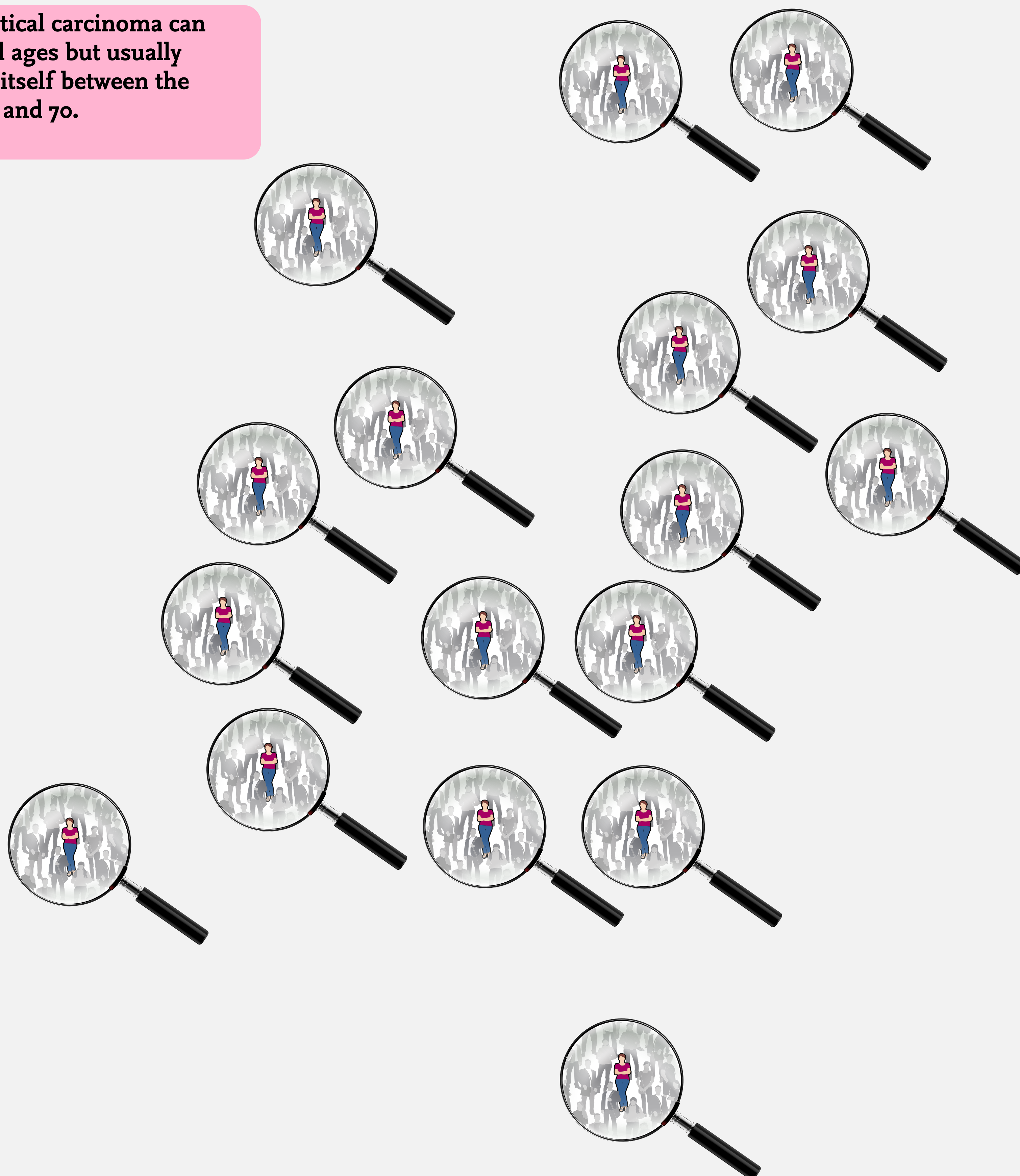


## What is adrenocortical carcinoma?

Adrenocortical carcinoma is a malignant tumour of the adrenal glands, which grows into surrounding healthy tissue and which disrupts the functioning of the tissue.

Adrenocortical carcinoma is diagnosed in about 17 people in the Netherlands each year.  
That is about 1 person in every one million.

Adrenocortical carcinoma can occur at all ages but usually manifests itself between the ages of 40 and 70.





## What are the consequences of adrenocortical carcinoma?

1

### Symptoms caused by the size of the tumour or by ingrowth and pressure on other tissues



Pain.



Nausea and vomiting.



Shortness of breath.



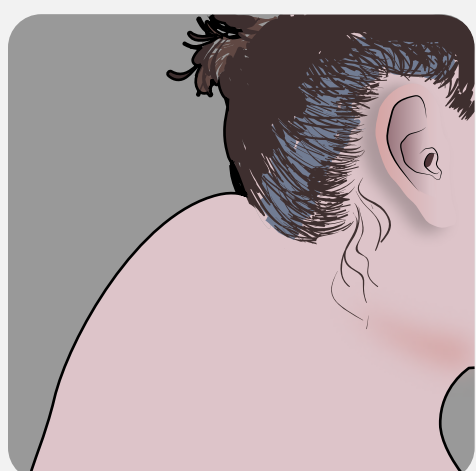
More difficult bowel movements.

2

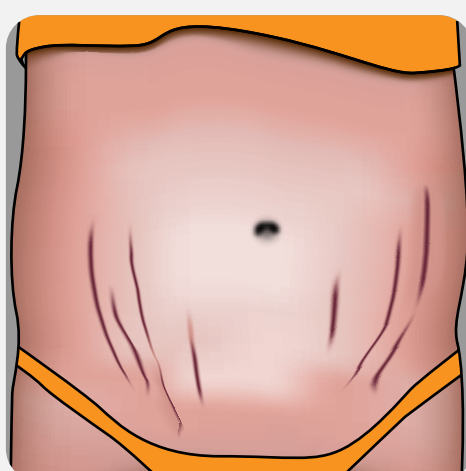
### Symptoms caused by overproduction of hormones

#### Cortisol

#### Symptoms and signs of Cushing's syndrome



Typical distribution of fat.



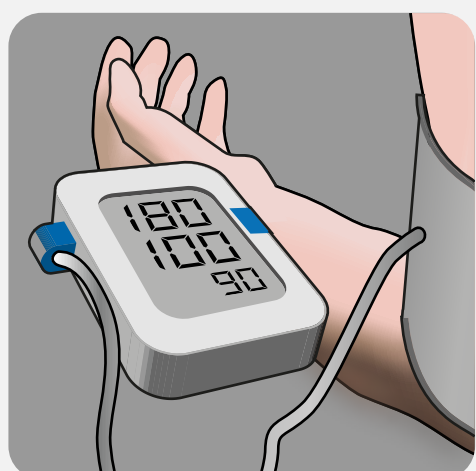
Stretch marks (striae).



Loss of muscle tone.



A round and bloated face (moonface).



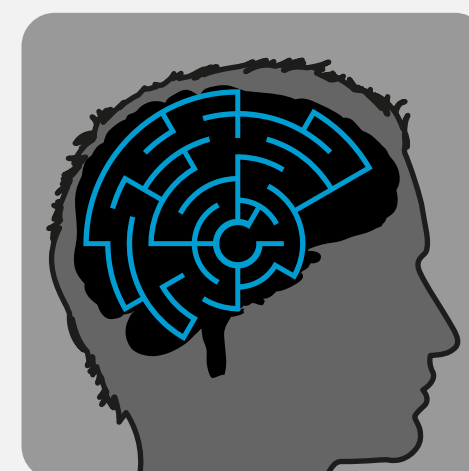
High blood pressure.



Thin skin. Bruises.



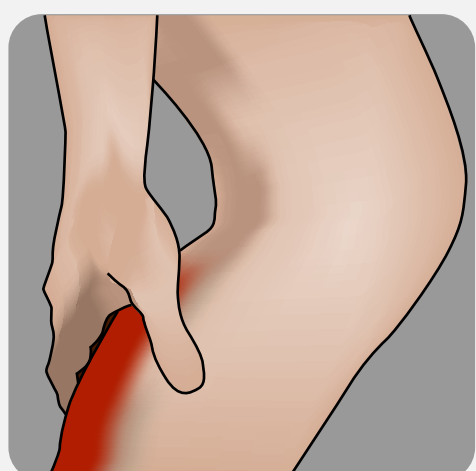
Tiredness.



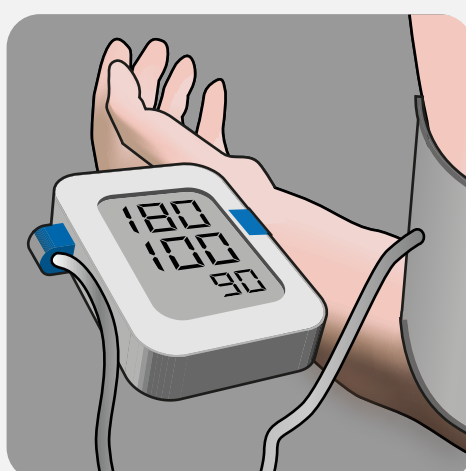
Cognitive and mood problems.

#### Aldosterone

#### Symptoms and signs of primary hyperaldosteronism



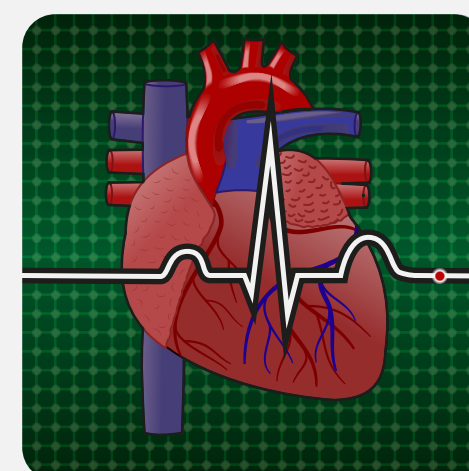
Muscle cramps.



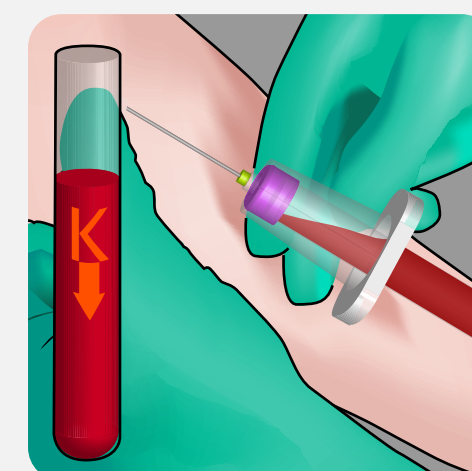
High blood pressure.



Headache.



Heart palpitations.



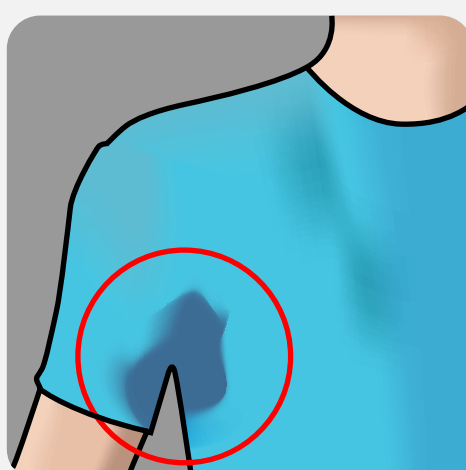
Low potassium level.

#### Androgens

#### Symptoms and signs of hyperandrogenism



Excessive body hair.



Excessive sweating.



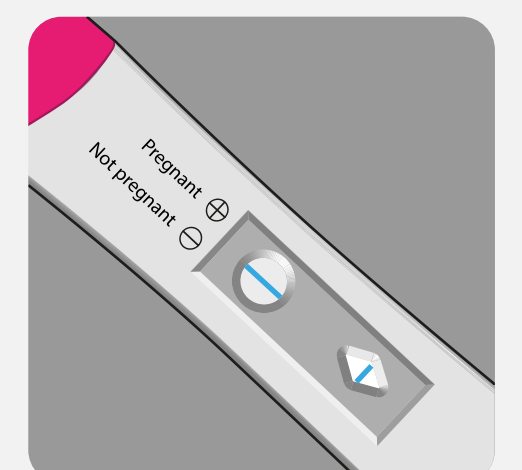
Acne.



Menstrual problems.



Deeper voice.



Reduced fertility.



## How is adrenocortical carcinoma diagnosed?

Assessment by family doctor or medical specialist in connection with symptoms and signs

Possible adrenocortical carcinoma

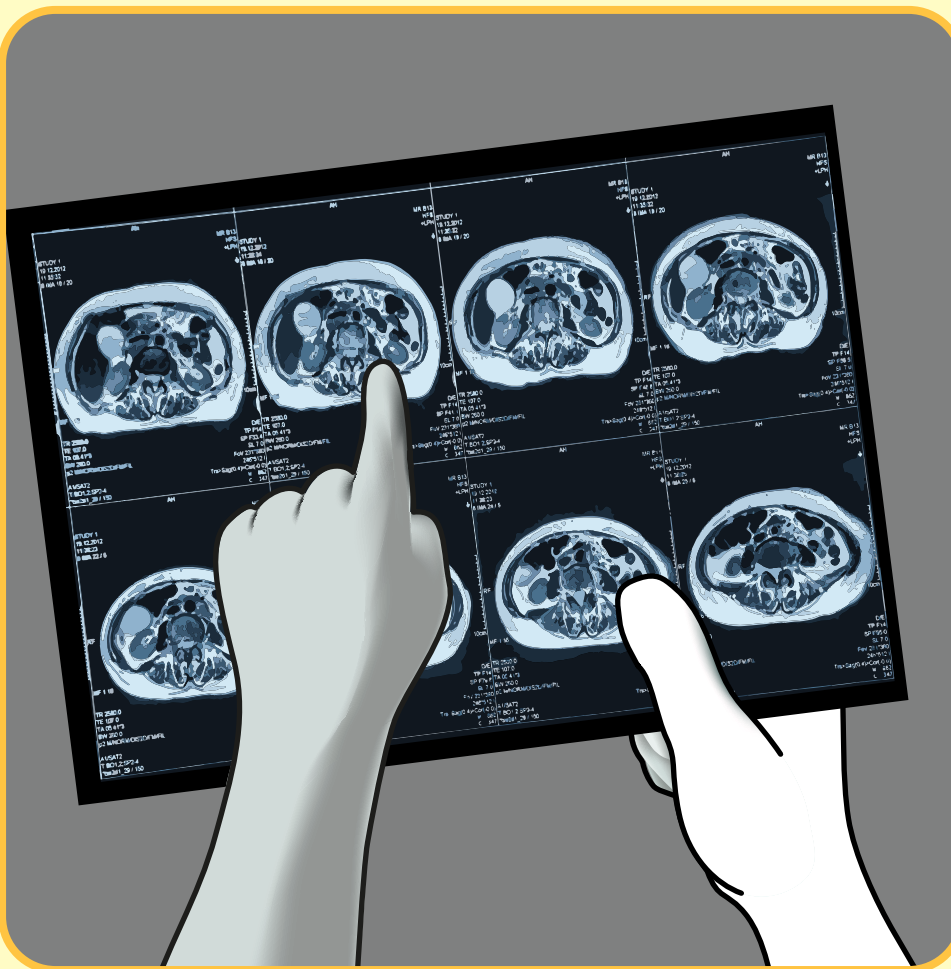
Hospital outpatients' clinic

Internal medicine specialist (endocrinologist)

Tests for a tumour in the adrenal gland.

1

Determine if there is a malignant tumour



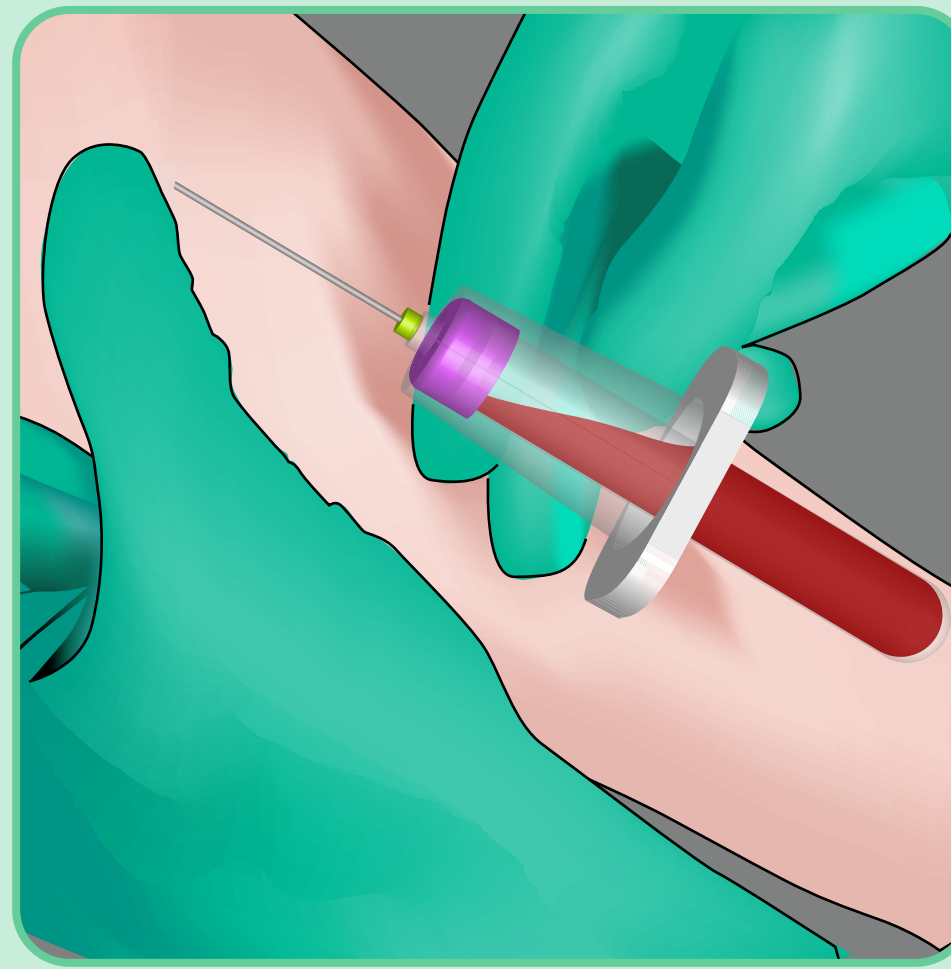
- situation, size, expansion of the tumour
- presence of metastases



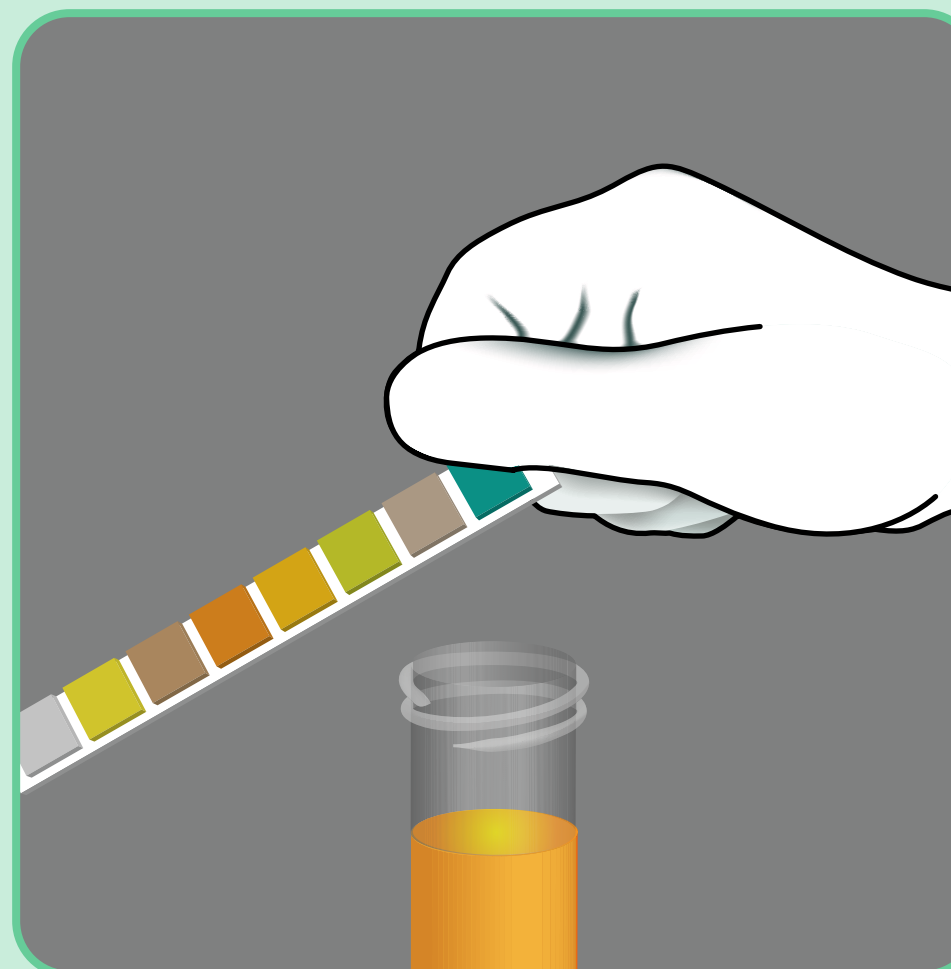
- examination of (a part of) the tumour by anatomical pathologist

2

Determine if there is hormonal overproduction



- blood tests and urine tests for the overproduction of cortisol, androgens and aldosterone

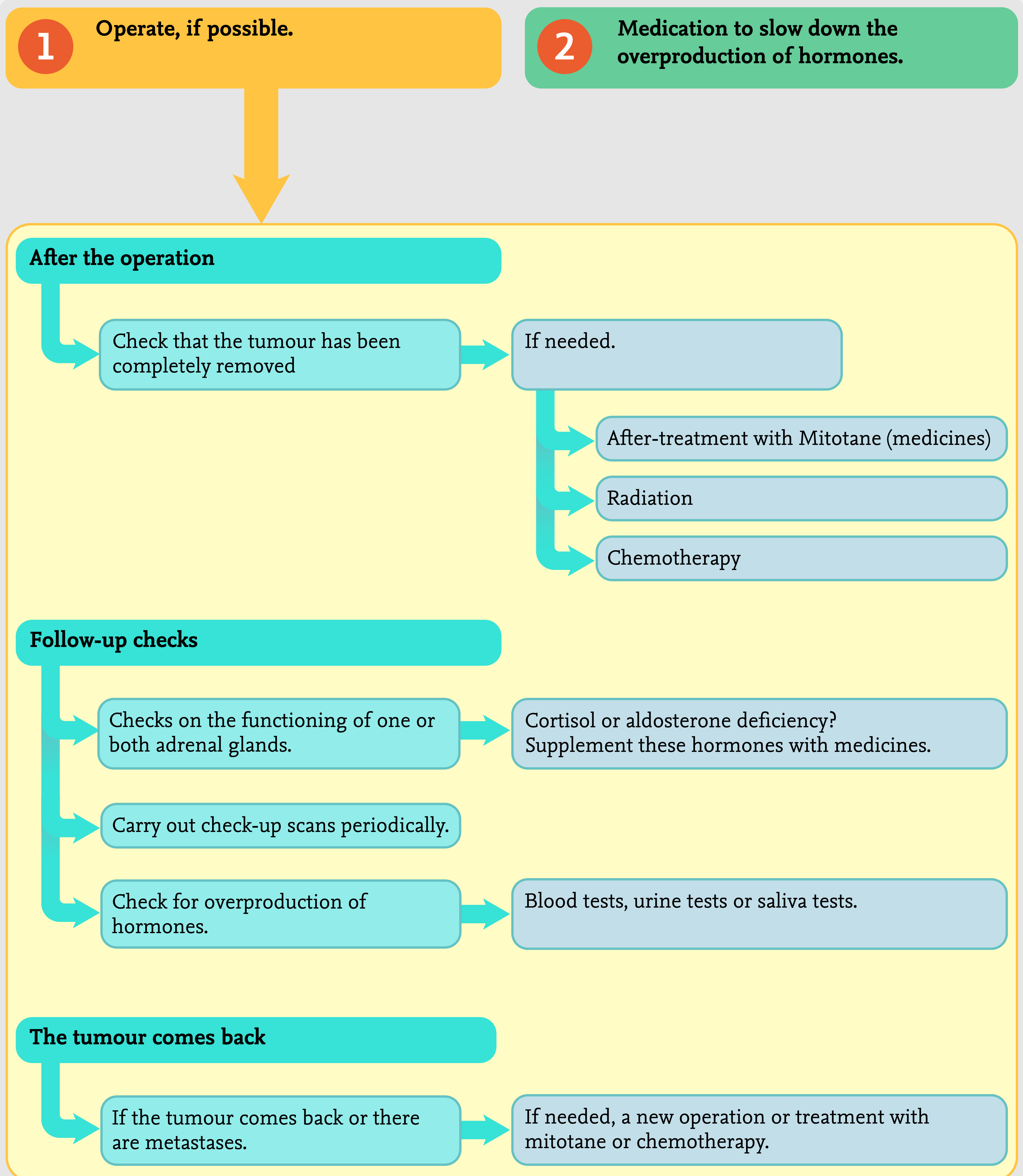


Treatment

**\*\* Preferably, diagnostics will take place in a Bijniernetwerk Nederland centre (the 8 UMCs and Máxima Medical Centre)**



## How is adrenocortical carcinoma treated?



Preferably, treatment will take place in a Bijniernetwerk Nederland centre  
(the 8 UMCs and Máxima Medical Centre)