



Figure S1. Sampling outline for LHPA axis measurements. Diurnal cortisol assessment and the dexamethasone suppression test (DST) were conducted on two consecutive days in both study phases, shown in (A). Arrowheads show sample collection times of day and dexamethasone injections, where indicated. Samples for diurnal cortisol were collected at 0800, 1100, and 1700 h. Samples for the DST were collected at 1100 h on two consecutive days, with the first 1100 h sample shared with the diurnal cortisol assessment. The dexamethasone challenge test (DCT) was administered on average 61 d following each female's diurnal cortisol and DST assessments, and samples were collected at approximately 0800, 0930, and 1230 h over a single day, indicated in (B).