

QuantiFeron®-TB Test (QFT)

Test description	Qualitative assay for the detection of interferon- γ (IFN- γ) in human blood.
Test use	To identify <i>in vitro</i> responses associated with latent <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> infection.
Test department	Virology Phone: (860) 920- 6662, FAX: (860) 920- 6661
Methodology	Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)
Availability	Test is performed Monday – Thursday, as needed.
Specimen Requirements	Whole blood collected into 3 specialized blood collection tubes
Collection Kit/Container	Nil control tube, TB antigen tube, Mitogen tube To obtain collection tubes, refer to Collection Kit Ordering Information.
Collection Instructions	Routine venipuncture. Mix tubes by vigorous shaking after collection (ensure the entire inner surface of the tube has been coated with the blood).
Specimen Handling & Transport	Maintain tubes at room temperature (17-27° C). Deliver to laboratory immediately. Specimen must be received within 16 hours after collection. Do not refrigerate or freeze blood. Do not centrifuge the specimen.
Unacceptable Conditions	Unlabeled specimen Specimens that have leaked or containers that have broken in transit. Improperly collected specimens Specimens received more than 16 hours after collection.
Requisition Form	Clinical Test Requisition (select QuantiFeron-TB Test) QuantiFERON® TB Gold In-Tube Collection and Testing Instructions
Required Information	Name and address of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #) Patient name or identifier, town of residence (city, state, zip), date of birth Specimen type or source of collection, date collected, time collected , test requested Please ensure patient name on requisition matches that on the specimens.
Limitations	- A negative test result does not preclude the possibility of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection. Infections by other mycobacteria (<i>M. kansasii</i>, <i>M. szulgai</i>, <i>M. marinum</i>) may cause false positive results. - Medical treatments or conditions that impair immune functionality can potentially reduce IFN-γ responses. - Additional medical and diagnostic evaluations are required to confirm active disease.
Additional Comments	Studies have demonstrated that the peptide antigens used in the QFT stimulate IFN- γ responses in T-cells from individuals infected with <i>M. tuberculosis</i> but generally not from BCG vaccinated persons without disease or risk for latent infection.

Revision: 8/25/15