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## QUANTIFERON TEST

**Synonym(s):**

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<b>Lab Section Category</b>	<b>Mycobacteriology</b> Click here to find out more about the <b>write-up</b> ( <a href="/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/mycobacteriology.aspx">/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/lab-discipline-special-instructions/pages/mycobacteriology.aspx</a> ).
<b>Specimen Required</b>	Whole blood collected into Quantiferon-Plus Nil, TB1, TB2 and Mitogen tubes. 1 ml in each Nil (grey cap with white ring), TB1 (green cap with white ring), TB2 (yellow cap with white ring) and mitogen (purple cap with white ring) Quantiferon tube. Acceptable range per tube = 0.8-1.2 ml.
<b>Storage and Transport</b>	<p>For the collection of Quantiferon TB Plus empty tubes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the "<b>Media Order Form</b> (<a href="/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/pages/test-request-forms.aspx">/clinical-departments-centers/pathology/pathology-handbook/pages/test-request-forms.aspx</a>)" (fill in under "Other") and send via the pneumatic tube system/fax to Client &amp; Specimen Management (CSM, Fax 63265436) <b>one day</b> in advance, Mondays to Fridays, between 0800 to 1600 hrs.</li> <li>• Collect the requested items from CSM, Academia Level 8, on the following day between 0900 to 1200 hrs.</li> <li>• Only the requested number of tubes will be issued.</li> <li>• The unused tubes can be stored between 4-25<sup>0</sup>C before their expiry date.</li> </ul> <p>Prior to use, check that none of the tubes are defective, expired or have discoloured contents. Allow the tubes to equilibrate to air-conditioned room temperature (17<sup>0</sup>C to 25<sup>0</sup>C) before specimen collection. Do not collect on Saturdays and the eve of public holidays. Ensure that the blood level is <b>within the black marking</b> on each tube. Recollect in a fresh tube if there is over or underfilling (above or underneath the black marking).</p> <p>Shake the tubes 10 times after collection and transport at room temperature (22±5<sup>0</sup>C) to CSM <b>before 1630 hrs</b> on the same day of blood collection. The tubes need to be incubated in the lab within 16 hours of blood collection. In the meantime, they can be maintained at an ambient room temperature of 22±5<sup>0</sup>C. <b>Please note that specimens will not be accepted on Saturdays, Sundays, eve of public holidays and on public holidays.</b></p>
<b>Method</b>	QuantIFERON-TB Gold Plus. IFN-γ level detected by EIA.
<b>Test Result</b>	Positive, Negative, Indeterminate
<b>Turnaround Time</b>	2 - 5 working days
<b>Day(s) Test Set up</b>	Mon-Fri

<b>Remarks</b>	Note: Specimens will be rejected if they arrive >16 hours after collection or if the blood volume is <0.8 ml or >1.2 ml in any tube. Refer to the table 'Specimen Requirements', under 'Blood for Quantiferon Testing'.
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**Change History Notes**

- **16 Oct 2015 05:57 PM**  
Amend the special instructions for the collection of Quantiferon TB Gold empty tubes.

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- **29 Apr 2016 06:13 PM**  
Amend Turnaround time to 2 - 5 working days.

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- **19 Jun 2017 11:38 AM**  
Update the test requirements for Quantiferon-TB Plus test except for the "Method" due to ?bugs issue.

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- **19 Jun 2017 04:10 PM**  
Update the "Methods" for Quantiferon-TB Plus

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