

Quantiferon-TB Gold In-Tube

Collection and Handling of Quantiferon –TB Gold Blood Test Tubes



PROVIDENCE HEALTH & SERVICES
CATHOLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES

The Quantiferon-TB Gold In-Tube assay (QFT) utilizes 3 specialized blood collection tubes. Test specific antigens have been dried into the inner wall of the blood collection tubes so it is essential that only these tubes are used for this test. **Immediately after filling tubes, shake them 10 times just firmly enough to ensure the entire inner surface of the tube is coated with blood to solubilize antigens on tube walls.**

Step 1

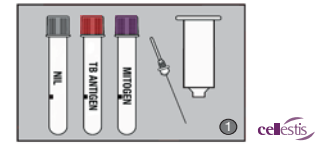
For each patient, 1 mL of blood must be collected into each of three Quantiferon_TB Gold blood collection tubes:

***** No substitutions can be made for these tubes*****

Gray Top: NIL tube (Draw this tube first)
Red Top: TB Antigen tube (Draw second)
Purple Top: Mitogen tube (Draw third)

***** If other labs are to be drawn at the same time, the QFT tubes must be collected first.**

QuantIFERON®-TB Gold Blood Collection Tubes

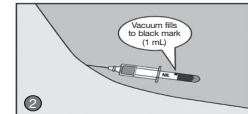


Step 2

Following standard venipuncture procedure for patient preparation and labeling, collect 1 mL of blood directly into each of the three tubes. As the tubes fill slowly, **keep the tube on the needle for 2-3 seconds after the tube appears to have completed filling** to ensure the correct volume is drawn. The black line on the side of each tube indicate the 1 mL fill volume.

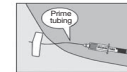
** If a butterfly needle is used for collection, a purge tube must be collected first and discarded to ensure the tubing is filled with blood prior to the QTF tubes being used.*

COLLECT BLOOD BY VENIPUNCTURE



Blood flow may be slow
Hold tube on needle for 2-3 seconds after flow ceases
Repeat tube if not close to mark

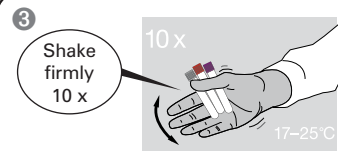
TECHNICAL TIP



If using a butterfly needle,
prime the line with a
normal vacuette tube
(not supplied)

Step 3

Mix each tube by shaking them 10 times just firmly enough to ensure the entire inner surface of the tube is coated with blood to solubilize antigens on tube walls. **Over energetic shaking may cause gel disruption and could lead to aberrant results.**



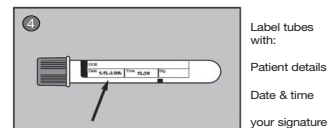
Shake immediately after filling

TECHNICAL TIP

Ensure that the entire inner surface of the tube has been coated with blood.

Step 4

Label tubes appropriately. **Ensure each tube (NIL, TB Antigen, Mitogen) remains identifiable by its label** once the cap is removed. Please ensure black specimen fill line is not covered with label. Tubes must be kept at room temperature (17-25°C) and must reach the laboratory within 16 hours.



OPTION ONE

Ship to laboratory

Keep between
17°C and 25°C

Blood must reach
laboratory and be
incubated at 37°C
within 16 hours

