

News

Clinical Laboratory Test Update

QuantiFERON TB Gold PLUS

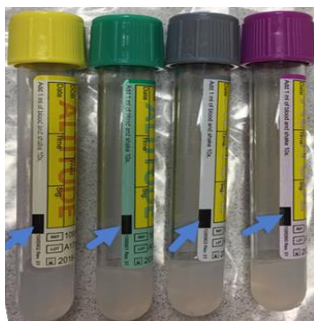
On August 13, 2018, the University of Colorado Hospital Clinical Laboratory began performing QuantiFERON TB Gold PLUS (QFT-Gold Plus) testing by Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA). The **QFT-Gold Plus** requires **4 special collection tubes** for lab testing, see photo below.

Collection tubes:

Four special QuantiFERON® - TB Gold PLUS high altitude (HA) collection tubes: Purple (Mitogen HA), Grey (Nil HA), Green (TB1 HA), Yellow (TB2 HA)

Please call lab to request tubes, 720-848-4401.

Internal ordering of QFT-Plus HA collection tubes, (25 ct), Lawson #312100.



Minimum volume: 1.0 mL blood (blue arrow) per tube

The **blue arrow** in the photo above points to the acceptable blood fill volume that is within the designated black bar on the side of the tube(s).

The blood volume must be between the bottom and top of the black line on each tube, see **blue arrow** above.

Specimen Collection:

1. Expect relatively slow blood draw time: keep tube and needle in place for 2-3 seconds after tube appears to have completed filling and ensure correct volume collection.

Helpful hint: The special 4 collection tubes for QFT Gold PLUS have a low vacuum and do not fill like the other blood collection tubes. It may be helpful to draw patients' blood using a **syringe WITH butterfly** and then inoculate the 4 tubes to the specified fill lines.

2. **Immediately after collection, shake tubes 10 times firmly** to ensure the entire inner surfaces of the tubes are coated with blood to dissolve the antigens on the tube walls. *Avoid overly vigorous shaking*, this may cause gel disruption and aberrant results.

Stability/Transport:

- Whole blood: Ambient, 16 hours (do not refrigerate).
- Deliver collection tubes to lab immediately at room temp, before 5:00 pm, Monday – Friday.

Acceptable sample:

- If blood volume collected is within the black bar indicated by the blue arrow in the photo, the sample is acceptable.
- All 4 special QFT-Gold PLUS collection tubes must contain 1.0 mL blood.

Unacceptable sample:

- If volume of blood collected is above or below the black bar indicated in photo, the sample is unacceptable.
- Less than the 4 special QFT-Gold PLUS collection tubes.
- Other tube(s) than Qiagen 4 special QFT-Gold PLUS collection tubes.
- Unacceptable samples will be communicated to the sending unit before test cancellation and request for sample recollect.

Test Code:	QFT-Gold Plus
EAP:	LAB8965
Test Method:	Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA)
Performed:	Monday – Friday
Reported:	2-4 days
Reference Range:	Negative
CPT Code	86480

Please call Mary Ellen Boyle at 720-848-7067 if you have any questions or visit our website at <https://www.uchealth.org/professionals/uch-clinical-laboratory/> for additional information.

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