

Quanti-FERON[®]-TB Plus Client Incubated (QFT-TB Plus CI)*

The **QFT-TB Plus CI** format allows for collection of specimens from patients at virtually any time-point necessary. Since the “post-incubated” tubes are stable for 72 hrs at room temperature, the specimens can then be delivered to the IDL laboratory M-F 7:00 am to 2:30 pm for testing

Targets Cell-mediated immune response to antigens associated with *M. tuberculosis* complex (QFT-TB Plus CI)

Accepted Specimens Four separate **1.0 ml** Quanti-FERON[®] collection tubes. These kits are supplied by the Infectious Diseases Laboratory.

Procedures

1. Follow sample collection instructions on the label of the QFT-TB Plus Blood Collection Kit, supplied by the Infectious Diseases Laboratory.
2. Invert tubes ten times, just firmly enough to ensure the entire surface of the tube is coated with blood, to solubilize antigens on tube walls.
3. Incubate the four (4) tubes upright at 36-38° C for 16 to 24 hours. Tubes must be incubated within 16 hours of collection.
4. Make sure to document the “Incubator Date/Time” information on the Test Request Form. This must accompany specimens to avoid rejection.
5. Following incubation, transport the four incubated collection tubes to the Infectious Diseases Laboratory, maintaining at room temperature. Incubated samples are stable for 72 hrs at room temp.

Specimens Receipt Client-incubated specimens are accepted Monday through Friday.

Assay Schedule Assay is set-up 2 to 3 times per week, with results usually available by 2:00pm. Only QFT-TB Plus CI Client Incubated specimens accepted on Friday.

Normal Range **Negative:** *M. tuberculosis* infection unlikely, but cannot be excluded, when:

- a) any illness is consistent with TB disease
- b) likelihood of progression to disease increased (i.e., immunosuppression).

CPT Codes **QFT-TB Plus CI:** 86481

*The QFT-TB Plus CI is not FDA approved for patients under the age of 17. The Infectious Diseases Laboratory will add the appropriate disclaimer to test results on those patients that do not meet this criteria.