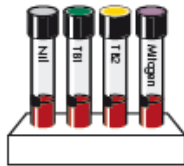


Blood Collection and Tube Handling Instructions Quantiferon-TB Gold Plus (QFT-Plus)

Caution - Blood MUST be collected properly to avoid indeterminate results!!!!

I. Blood Collection

- A. Outpatient specimens are collected by the Outpatient Lab. For in-patients, a collection kit is obtained from the Outpatient Laboratory at 720-777-8175 and specimen is collected by the Nursing Unit. Collection kits may also be obtained from Microbiology at 720-777-6703.
- B. Collect 1mL of blood by venipuncture into each of the four QFT-Plus blood collection tubes.
 - a. The 1mL tubes draw slowly, keep the tube on the needle for 2-3 seconds once the tube appears to have completed filling.
 - b. Incomplete filling may cause rejection of the sample.



- C. The Black mark on the side of the tubes indicates the 1mL fill volume. If your blood draw is near this line, then you will be within the optimal range of 0.8mL to 1.2mL.
 1. **If a butterfly needle is being used to collect blood**, an empty red or gold top tube should be placed on the needle first, filling the tubing with blood prior to collecting the QFT tubes, to assure that the QFT tube will fill correctly.

II. Tube Shaking - this is a critical step!! Under shaking may cause indeterminate test results and overshaking may dislodge gel.

- A. Immediately after filling the tubes, **shake them 10 times** just firmly enough to ensure the entire inner surface of the tube is coated with blood. Over shaking may cause gel disruption and could lead to aberrant results.



- B. Label each tube with two patient identifiers (Name/MR# for patients and Name/date of birth for non-patients) and date, time and initials.
- C. Send tubes directly to the Microbiology Laboratory (tube station 920) at room temperature (17°C to 27°C).