



AT THE FOREFRONT

UChicago
Medicine

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TO: UCH Medical Staff, House staff, Patient Care Centers, and Outpatient Clinics

FROM: Kathleen G. Beavis, MD, Medical Director of Microbiology and Immunology Laboratories

RE: **QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus**

Effective November 9, 2018 the Clinical Microbiology and Immunology Laboratories will begin performing QuantiFERON-TB testing using the newest version of the assay.

QuantifERON-TB Gold Plus (QFT-Plus) is the fourth generation of the assay, and replaces the prior version, QuantiFERON –TB Gold (QFT). **The main difference with the new version of the assay is the addition of a fourth tube. This additional tube contains peptides that stimulate CD8+ T cells, improving the sensitivity of the assay over the previous version which stimulated only CD4+ T cells.**

Specimen and transport requirements:

QFT-Plus requires a new set of 4 tubes for collection. Testing is performed on whole blood only. Collect 1 mL of blood into each of the 4 QFT-Plus Tubes.



Ordering information:

The order code has not changed, use order code: QTBG.

The QFT-Plus is based on detection of interferon- γ by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) method. Testing will be performed five days a week, Monday through Friday. Refer to the Laboratory Handbook (<https://uchicagomedlabs.testcatalog.org/>) for details.

If you have any questions, please contact Ana Abeleda, Chief Technologist, in the Clinical Microbiology and Immunology Laboratories at 773-702-6618, or Vera Tesic, MD, Asst. Director at 773-702-2677.