

**Specimen Submission Requirements for the QuantiFERON-TB Gold IT (In-Tube) Test
(Tuberculosis Control Branch Clients Only)**

- Methodology:** Cell Culture/Enzyme Immunoassay
- Performed:** The Medical Microbiology Branch of the State Laboratories Division will accept blood specimens only from the Tuberculosis Control Branch from Monday through Thursday by 1:30 p.m. Specimens received after 1:30 p.m. cannot be tested. Testing for interferon- γ will occur on Friday, unless there is a state holiday.
- Turn-Around-Time:** 5 – 7 days
- Specimen Collection:** For each client, collect one (1) milliliter (mL) of blood by venipuncture into each tube of a set of three (**Nil Control** with grey cap, **TB Antigen** with red cap, **Mitogen Control** with purple cap). Once collected, each tube should be vigorously shaken for five seconds to ensure thorough mixing.
- Note:** As one milliliter tubes draw blood relatively slowly, keep the tube on the needle for 2 – 3 seconds once the tube appears to have completely filled, to ensure that the correct volume is drawn. The black mark on the side of the tubes indicates the one milliliter fill volume. These collection tubes are manufactured to draw and perform optimally within the range of 0.8 to 1.2 mL. If a butterfly needle is used to collect blood, a “purge” tube should be used to ensure that the tubing is filled with blood prior to the filling of the QuantiFERON-TB Gold IT collection tubes.
- Specimen Transport:** Specimens must be delivered to the Medical Microbiology Branch of the State Laboratories Division within 16 hours from specimen collection and by 1:30 p.m. of that date of collection. Transport temperature must be in the range of 17 – 27° C.
- Requisition Form:** State Laboratories Division requisition Form 81.3. At a minimum, patient identifier, name and address of submitter, type of specimen (e.g. whole blood), date and time of collection, and test requested (QuantiFERON-TB Gold IT) must be completed on form.
- Normal Value:** Negative
- Result Notification:** Laboratory reports will be forwarded to the Tuberculosis Control Branch.

Remarks:

Please be sure that completed requisition forms are legible. Requisition forms and specimen tubes are not to be placed in the same chamber of the specimen transport container or bag.

Unacceptable Conditions:

- a. Illegible or incomplete requisition forms.
- b. Unlabeled tubes.
- c. Frozen or refrigerated specimens.
- d. Specimens warmer than 27° C upon receipt.
- e. Leaking blood specimens.
- f. Specimen quantity less than 0.8mL (below the black fill line of collection tube) or greater than 1.2 mL (beyond the black fill line of the collection tube).
- g. Blood collection tubes submitted other than the QuantiFERON-TB Gold IT collection tubes.
- h. Incomplete set of QuantiFERON-TB Gold IT collection tubes submitted (either the Nil Control, TB Antigen, or Mitogen Control is missing)
- i. Blood specimen is clotted.
- j. Specimen obtained by laboratory beyond 16 hours from time of collection.

Test Location:

State Laboratories Division
Medical Microbiology Branch
Bacterial Serology Unit
2725 Waimano Home Rd., 2nd floor
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782
Phone: (808) 453-6706

Approved:



A. Christian Whelen, Ph.D.
State Laboratories Division Administrator.

4-18-2008

Date