We are excited to announce QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus testing will be performed at Mercy Clinical Laboratory starting February 6, 2018. This test replaces the current QuantiFERON-TB Gold test sent out to Mayo Medical Laboratory. As a result, you will experience a shorter turnaround time due to minimizing transport time to a reference laboratory.

The QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus test is for detection of Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection. Qiagen is phasing out the previous QuantiFERON assay, and is now offering this enhanced assay. The QFT-Plus testing has an extra tube which contains additional antigens that will now look at both CD4 and CD8 immune responses; previous QuantiFERON testing only tested the CD4 response. CD8 T-cell responses are more frequent in active TB, new infections and function well in young children and individuals with HIV. QFT-Plus cannot be used to distinguish between active TB and latent TB, and interpretation and results should always include a risk assessment, radiography and other medical and diagnostic evaluations.

The QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus assay requires 4 special tubes to be drawn. Beginning February 5, 2018, when you order QuantiFERON-TB Gold kit from MCL, you will receive the new kit with 4 tubes for in-house testing. The 3 tube collection will not be accepted after February 6, 2018 and will need to be recollected. Extra-unused 3 tube collection kits can be discarded at your facility.

Instructions for collection are the same. These must be followed to minimize indeterminate results. Collect 1 mL of blood into each of the 4 QFT-In tubes. These are special tubes and blood must be drawn into all four tubes. Volume of blood must be in the range of the black bar on each tube. Immediately after filling tubes, shake them 10 times just firmly enough to ensure the entire inner surface of the tube is coated with blood to solubilize antigens on tube walls. DO NOT CENTRIFUGE. All tubes must be labeled with last name, first name, date and time drawn.

Stability: Must be received by MCL within 12 hours of collection. Room temperature.
Test Name: QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus
Performing Laboratory: Mercy Clinical Laboratory
CPT: 86480
Specimen Requirements: QuantiFERON-TB Gold 4 tube kit (gray, green, yellow, purple)
Minimum Volume: Volume of blood in each tube (1 ml) must be in the range of the black bar on
the label.
Stability: Must be received by MCL within 12 hours of collection. Room temperature.
Rejection Criteria: Wrong volume, delay in specimen receipt
Test Methodology: ELISA
Normal Range: Negative
Reportable Range: Negative, Positive, or Indeterminate
Client List Price: $ 100.00
Patient/Insurance Price: $ 150.00

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<th>Result code</th>
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