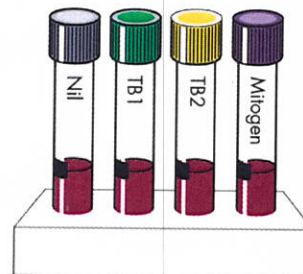


QuantiFERON®-TB Gold Plus (QFT-Plus) — Blood Collection

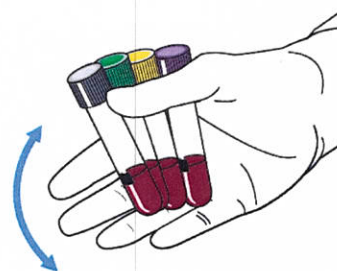
Blood collection

1. Label QFT-Plus Blood Collection Tubes. There are four tubes per collection kit.
 - **Important:** QFT-Plus Blood Collection Tubes should be at room temperature (17–25°C) at the time of blood collection.
2. Collect 1 mL of blood by venipuncture directly into each of the QFT-Plus Blood Collection Tubes.
 - As 1 mL tubes draw blood relatively slowly, keep the tube on the needle for 2–3 seconds once the tube appears to have completed filling.
 - The black mark on the side of the tubes indicates the validated range of 0.8 to 1.2 mL. If the level of blood in any tube is outside of the indicator mark, a new blood sample should be obtained.
 - If a “butterfly needle” is being used to collect blood, a “purge” tube should be used to ensure that the tubing is filled with blood prior to the QFT-Plus Blood Collection Tubes being used.



Tube shaking

1. Immediately after filling the tubes, shake them ten (10) times just firmly enough to make sure the entire inner surface of the tube is coated with blood. This will dissolve antigens on tube walls.
 - **Important:** Overly vigorous shaking may cause gel disruption and could lead to aberrant results.



Incubation and shipping to LA County PHL

1. QFT-Plus tubes must be transferred to a 37°C ±1°C incubator at collection site within 16 hours of collection.
 - Tubes should be transferred to an incubator at collection site as soon as possible after collection. If tubes are not incubated immediately after blood collection, remix tubes by inverting 10 times immediately prior to incubation.
 - Incubate tubes **UPRIGHT** at 37°C ±1°C for 16–24 hours.
 - After incubation is completed, centrifuge specimens at 2000-3000 x G for 15 minutes. Store specimens at 2-8 °C and send on cold pack as soon as possible.
 - o If unable to centrifuge, specimens must be sent on cold pack as soon as possible to the laboratory. Specimens must be centrifuged within 72 hours of incubation.

Have questions? Call LA County Public Health Laboratories at 562-658-1330.