



KAISER PERMANENTE®
COLORADO LABORATORY

**QuantIFERON TB GOLD COLLECTION FOR NEW EMPLOYEES
and REQUESTS from OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE,
INFECTIOUS DISEASE, ALLERGY, GI and RHEUMATOLOGY**

PURPOSE

QuantIFERON TB gold (QFT) is an innovative blood test that measures the cell-mediated immune response of TB-infected individuals. QFT uses specially designed (1 ml) blood collection tubes that are coated with M. tuberculosis specific antigens (ESAT-6, CFP-10, and TB 7.7). This procedure describes how to collect specimens for TB testing using the QFT collection tubes on new employees and patients from the following specialty departments: Infectious Disease and Occupational Medicine, Allergy, GI, Dermatology Rheumatology, and Pulmonology.

SCOPE

All Phlebotomists, Medical Technologists and Medical Laboratory Technicians working at: Franklin, Skyline, Aurora Centre Point, Wheat Ridge, Arapahoe, Rock Creek Laboratories.

POLICY

1. Follow current venipuncture procedures and policies outlined in the front desk manual.
2. Follow current universal precaution procedures and policies outline in the front desk manual.
3. Follow current Kaiser Permanente HIPAA policy.

SPECIMEN

1. 1 ml whole blood collected in grey w/ gold top, purple w/ gold top & red w/ gold top QuantIFERON TB vacutainer tubes.

REAGENTS AND SUPPLIES

1. See venipuncture procedure in the front desk manual for phlebotomy supplies.
2. High Altitude QFT red with gold top tube. Cat no. 0590-0501. Cellistis Inc.
3. High Altitude QFT grey with gold top tube. Cat no. 0590-0505. Cellistis Inc.
4. High Altitude QFT purple with gold top tube. Cat no. 0593-0501. Cellistis Inc.
5. Combo package of High Altitude Tubes - All three(100) Cat no. 0590-0505. Cellistis Inc.
6. QFT tubes are purchased, stocked and distributed by the Specialty Department

PROCEDURE

1. Prepare the venipuncture site as described in the venipuncture procedure of the front desk manual.
2. Draw 1 ml of each of the following “High Altitude” QFT vacutainer tubes in the following order: GREY with gold top, RED with gold top, PURPLE with gold top.
3. Keep the tube on the needle for 2-3 seconds once the tube appears to have completed filling to ensure that the correct volume is drawn. The black mark on the side of the tubes indicates 1 ml fill volume.
4. If a butterfly needle is used to collect blood, draw a “waste” red top tube first prior to collecting the QFT tubes.
5. Mix the tubes by shaking the tubes **VIGOROUSLY** for 5 seconds (or 10 times) to ensure that the entire surface of the tube has been coated with the blood.
 - a. Thorough mixing is required to ensure complete integration of the tubes contents into the blood
 - b. Frothing (foaming) of the blood is expected during the shaking process however this does not affect the performance of the assay and should not be of concern.
6. Label the tubes with the following information
 - a. First and Last Name
 - b. DOB
 - c. Date of Collection
 - d. Time of Collection
 - e. Phlebotomist Initials
7. DO NOT CENTRIFUGE the samples.
8. Send the tubes in a separate bag in a room temperature cooler to RRL. DO NOT put ice pack in the cooler. Mark on the outside of the bag: “ATTENTION SPECIALTIES”
9. DO NOT refrigerate or freeze the samples.
10. Specimens are routinely drawn Mon-**Thurs** only at the above Medical Office Laboratories. Specimens are incubated 16-24 hours at 37° at Stapleton prior to being spun down. Testing occurs on Fridays.

REFERENCES

1. Cellistis Inc. www.cellestis.com December, 2008