

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

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Date: March 14, 2013

Dear Valued Clients:

Foundation Laboratory is pleased to announce that effective March 18, 2013 Quantiferon Gold TB test will be performed in-house.

Quantiferon Gold is a FDA approved blood test for detection of tuberculosis (TB) infection. It is mainly used for latent tuberculosis infection; however, in most cases it will be positive with active tuberculosis cases but cannot distinguish between active and latent TB. Definite diagnosis of active tuberculosis must be confirmed by microbiological evidence. The test focuses on quantification of Interferon-Gamma released by sensitized T-lymphocytes in whole blood resulting in cell-mediated immune response to a cocktail of 3 Mycobacterium tuberculosis proteins (ESAT-6, CFP-10, and TB 7.7). Quantiferon Gold test replaces the 100 year old tuberculin skin test (TST/PPD). It is not subject to interpretation of skin reaction to PPD and unlike the skin test, it is not affected by BCG vaccination or booster injections. This makes the Quantiferon Gold test an accurate, reliable, and convenient TB diagnostic tool.

**Advantages:**

*Single patient visit opposed to 2-4 required for PPD.*

*Accurate and reliable results not subject to reader interpretation.*

*Results not affected by Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccination or booster phenomenon caused by subsequent tests.*

*Assess response to multiple antigens simultaneously.*

*Does not boost anamnestic response.*

**Specimen Requirements:** Contact laboratory for special tubes and phlebotomy instructions.

Samples must be submitted Monday through Friday. Samples received on Saturday or Sunday will be rejected.

**Turn Around Time:** Seven days

For supplies and other needs please contact your Foundation Laboratory representative.

Sincerely,

Reza M. Massoumi, Ph.D.  
Director of Technical Operations