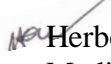




**MEMORANDUM #179**

**TO:** UNCHCS Attending Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

**FROM:**  Herbert C. Whinna, MD, PhD  
Medical Director, McLendon Clinical Laboratories

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Associate Director, Clinical Microbiology/Immunology Laboratories

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Associate Director, Clinical Microbiology/Immunology Laboratories

**SUBJECT: QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus testing**

**DATE:** August 13, 2018

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Effective 08/20/2018 the Clinical Immunology Laboratory will switch from the current Quantiferon-TB Gold test to the new QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus (QFT-Plus) test. This change is being made in response to the termination of the manufacturing of the current Quantiferon-TB Gold test.

The QFT-Plus test measures the concentration of interferon gamma released by peripheral lymphocytes that have been stimulated by *M. tuberculosis* antigens contained in the antigen tubes. The only difference in the QFT-Plus test is the addition of a second antigen tube (TB2). Four tubes (TB1, TB2, Nil and Mitogen) instead of three will need to be collected from patients. Test results are calculated in the same fashion as the Quantiferon test.

Nil (IU/ml)	TB1 minus Nil (IU/ml)	TB2 minus Nil (IU/ml)	Mitogen minus Nil (IU/ml)*	QFT-Plus Result	Report/interpretation
≤8.0	≥0.35 and ≥25% of Nil	Any	Any	Positive	<i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection likely
	Any	≥0.35 and ≥25% of Nil			
	<0.35 or ≥0.35 and <25% of Nil		≥0.50	Negative	<i>M. tuberculosis</i> infection NOT likely
	<0.35 or ≥0.35 and <25% of Nil		<0.50	Indeterminate	Likelihood of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> Infection cannot be determined
>8.0	Any				

The QFT-Plus test (Quantiferon TB Gold, LAB5902) is available M-F. Blood collection tubes can be obtained from Outreach Services, 984-974-2361, or Qiagen directly, whichever is your current supply practice.

For any questions please contact the Clinical Immunology Laboratory at 984-974-1815.