

QFT™ improves efficiency of TB contact investigations – allowing you to focus your efforts

Imagine being able to focus only on individuals truly infected with TB...

Study Overview

In a high school TB contact investigation involving 349 contacts: ⁽¹⁾

- Out of 95 contacts who were TST (Tuberculin Skin Test) positive, only 4 were QFT™ positive.
- The 91 contacts who were TST positive—but QFT™ negative—were not given Isoniazid (INH) therapy, while the 4 contacts that were QFT positive were given INH therapy.
- After 3½ years of follow-up none of the 91 QFT™ negative—but TST positive—contacts had developed active TB.

...now it's possible with QFT™

Efficiency gains with QFT™

QFT™ Advantages	Limitations of TST (Tuberculin Skin Test) Programs
Need for one visit saves time and can improve adherence.	Problems with testing logistics commonly affect adherence to TST programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires two visits.
Unprecedented accuracy in detecting TB infection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaffected by BCG vaccination.⁽⁴⁾ • Unaffected by most environmental non-tuberculous mycobacterium (NTM).⁽⁵⁾ 	TST accuracy adversely affected by previous BCG vaccination and non-tuberculous mycobacterial infections (NTM). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCG can cause false positive TST responses in up to 20-40% of cases.⁽²⁾ • Up to 50% of TST responses can be due to NTM infections.⁽³⁾
Increased test accuracy provides confidence in initiating therapy and encourages therapy compliance.	Low compliance rates amongst TB contacts indicated for INH therapy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studies have shown that ~43% indicated TB contacts completed INH therapy.⁽⁶⁾

Numerous studies have shown that QFT™ has better correlation with the degree of exposure of contacts to their source case than the TST. ^(7,8,9,10,11)

In a large contact investigation involving >20,000 contacts exposed to a smear-positive supermarket employee:

“...TST results were associated with age while positive Interferon-γ responses were significantly associated with cumulative shopping time, most markedly for QFT-GIT. [the authors concluded]...Blood test results were associated with exposure, while the TST was not.” ⁽¹¹⁾

“QuantIFERON-TB Gold will eliminate the waste of precious health resources from inaccurate skin tests and improve public safety by preventing unnecessary treatment.”

Dr. Masae Kawamura, TB Controller for the City of San Francisco

Ordering Information

Catalog Number	Product Description
0590 0301	QuantIFERON®-TB Gold In-Tube (Nil, TB Antigen, Mitogen tubes) 100 each
0594 0201	QuantIFERON®-TB Gold ELISA only

References

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