



# Hygienic Laboratory

*The University of Iowa*

## Serology/QuantiFERON Gold Testing for Latent Tuberculosis

### Submission Requirements

#### Serology

- Serum is accepted for all tests performed. Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) or serum may be submitted for West Nile Virus, syphilis, and *Cryptococcus neoformans* testing.
- A convalescent blood sample collected 14-21 days after acute specimen is required for complement fixation testing and is recommended for most serologic studies.
- Label tube with patient's name or unique identifier, age or date of birth (DOB) and the date of collection.
- **UNLABELED SPECIMENS WILL NOT BE TESTED.**
- A completed Serology/QuantiFERON TB Gold Test Request Form must accompany specimen

#### QuantiFERON TB Gold In-Tube:

- **Call UHL, Iowa City at 319-335-4500 or Ankeny at 515-725-1600** to arrange for testing at least 24 hours prior to collection. Arrange for Transport at least 24 hours prior to collection. Courier option: CDS (Central Delivery System) at 515-771-8541. (fees apply)
- **Call UHL, Iowa City at 319-335-4500.**
- All non-incubated specimens must arrive at UHL within 10 hours of specimen collection and/or before 4:00 PM, Monday thru Thursday.
- All incubated specimens must arrive at UHL within 3 days of incubation.

### Specimen Collection and Handling

#### Serology

- Collect blood samples in a red stopper, serum separator tube (SST), or a tube without anticoagulants. When possible, samples should be centrifuged to separate serum from cells.
- 1 ml of serum is the minimum recommended volume to submit.
- Collect CSF samples in a clear, plastic tube with a screw-top lid.
- Label specimen, wrap the collection tube in absorbent material, and place into a biohazard bag.

#### QuantiFERON TB Gold In-Tube:

- Label each of the 3 tubes with patient name or unique identifier, age or date of birth (DOB), and date and time of collection .
- Collect tubes in order (Nil, Antigen, Mitogen). Tubes are calibrated to accept 1 ml of whole blood. Recommend a purge tube with use of butterfly needle.
  - **Not Incubated:**
    - Shake tubes vigorously for 5 seconds, foaming is O.K.
    - Send to UHL. Must arrive at UHL within 10 hours of collection. Ship at room temperature 20-30 °C (DO NOT REFRIGERATE OR FREEZE)
  - **Incubated:**
    - Shake tubes vigorously for 5 seconds.
    - Incubate within 16 hours of collection. Keep tubes upright. Prior to incubation, tubes must remain at room temperature (20-30 °C)
    - If tubes were not incubated immediately after collection, re-shake before incubation.
    - Incubate in 37 °C incubator for 16-24 hours.
    - *Must arrive at UHL within 3 days after incubation. Ship at room temperature 20-30 °C (DO NOT REFRIGERATE OR FREEZE)*

Specimen Collection and Shipping Instructions

09/16/09

Page 1 of 2



# Hygienic Laboratory

*The University of Iowa*

## Serology/QuantIFERON Gold Testing for Latent Tuberculosis

### Complete Test Request Form

- A completed Serology/QuantIFERON TB Gold Test Request Form must accompany the specimen.
- The test request form **MUST** have the patient's name or unique identifier, age or date of birth (DOB), gender, test requested marked, patient history (if applicable), date and time of specimen collection, and return address of the submitter.

### Shipping Instructions

#### Serology

- Include completed Serology/QuantIFERON TB Gold Test Request Form in outside pocket of biohazard bag.
- Roll up the bag, and place in a mailer.
- Seal mailer with the S-coded self-adhesive wrapper provided with UHL kit or equivalent.
- Ship at ambient temperature as soon as possible via first class mail. **DO NOT USE WET ICE.**
- Ship multiple specimens in packaging compliant with USPS or IATA regulations.
- If delays in transport are anticipated, refrigerate specimens until shipment **except QuantIFERON TB Gold.**

#### QuantIFERON TB Gold:

- See QuantIFERON TB Gold Specimen Collection and Handling Instructions.

### Contact Information

- For UHL in Iowa City, please call 319-335-4500. For UHL in Ankeny, please call 515-725-1600.
- Test request forms and kits may be obtained online at <http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu/kitsquotesforms>

Specimen Collection and Shipping Instructions

09/16/09

Page 2 of 2

102 Oakdale Campus, #101 OH  
Iowa City, IA 52242-5002  
319/335-4500 Fax: 319/335-4555

<http://www.uhl.uiowa.edu>

Iowa Laboratories Complex  
2220 S. Ankeny Blvd., Ankeny, IA 50023-9093  
515/725-1600 Fax: 515/725-1642