



NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Division of Public Health Laboratories
Rodger Silletti, Ph.D., D(ABMM), Director
209 Main Street
Hempstead, New York 11550
Voice: (516) 572-1202
Fax: (516) 572-1206

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QUANTIFERON SPECIMEN SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS
(PLEASE CALL 516-572-1202 FOR MORE INFORMATION)

Requisition forms:

- 1) The Requisition Form (NCPHL408-2) can be found at the following URL <http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/Health/labs.html>. If you are unable to use the on-line form, print out and complete the manual entry Requisition Form NCPHL408-3A being sure to include all requested information.
- 2) Follow the instructions on the NC PHL Clinical Specimen Submission Requirements document (available at the above URL) to complete the requisition form. Check the "Quantiferon" box and indicate **Reason for Test, PPD Status (and year of test if positive), and check the appropriate box for Antituberculous drugs.** This information is required to perform the test.

Specimen:

- 1) **Blood for the Quantiferon test must be collected in the special In-Tube 3-tube system** supplied by the Nassau County Public Health Laboratory (PHL). Please call 516-572-1202 for collection tubes.
 - a. In-Tube: collect 1ml of blood by venipuncture directly into each of the three collection tubes (grey cap, red cap, and purple cap).
 - i. **As the tubes fill slowly, keep the tube on the needle for 2 to 3 seconds once it appears to have completed filling to ensure the correct volume has been drawn.**
 - ii. **The black mark on the side of the tube indicates the fill level, and the level of blood must be close to this indicator line.**
 - iii. **If a butterfly needle is used, a "purge" tube must be used to ensure that the tube is filled with blood before attaching Quantiferon TB Gold tubes.**
 - iv. **Once filled, tubes must be vigorously shaken up and down 10 times to ensure that the entire inner surface of the tube has been coated with blood.**
 - b. The tubes should be held at room temperature (17C – 27C) and transported to the laboratory within 16 hours of collection.
- 2) The Nassau County PHL does not have phlebotomy services. Please call the laboratory at 516-572-1202 when the patient has arrived at your facility for venipuncture so that the laboratory can schedule the specimen pick-up as soon as possible.
- 3) Specimens must be picked-up by the Nassau County PHL by 2:00pm at the latest or delivered to 209 Main Street by 2:30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, except for Nassau County Holidays and weekdays prior to Nassau County Holidays.
- 4) The test result will be reported the day after pick-up.

Quantiferon Test Uses and Limitations:

For proper use and interpretation of the Quantiferon TB Blood test please see the “Guidelines for Using the Quantiferon®-TB Gold Test for Detecting Mycobacterium tuberculosis Infection, United States” and the “Quantiferon-TB Gold Fact Sheet” available on this website and at the following URL

<http://www.cdc.gov/search.do?queryText=Quantiferon&action=search>

or call 516-572-1202.