



Porter Hospital Laboratory

115 Porter Drive

Middlebury, VT 05753

TEST CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT

QuantiFERON®-TB Gold In-Tube Test

January 14, 2010

Porter Hospital Laboratory began offering the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test (QFT-G) through Laboratory Alliance of Central New York, LLC in March of 2009. We are happy to announce that we now offer this test through Mayo Medical Laboratory at a greatly reduced price.

This is a whole-blood test for use as an aid in diagnosing *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection, including latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) and tuberculosis (TB) disease.

Please see the attached information from Mayo Medical Laboratory for more information regarding the test and/or see it on the web at <http://www.mayomedicallaboratories.com> (type in test number 83896).

Ordering specifics:	Test Name:	TB Gold Test
	Sample Requirements:	Patient must have collection performed at Porter Hospital Laboratory.
	Hours:	Monday – Friday (8AM to 3PM)
	Estimated Report Time:	5 Days (Was 10 days)
	CPT Code:	86480
	Price:	\$125.00 (Was \$225.00)

QuantiFERON®-TB Gold

Mayo Medical Laboratory Test #83896

Information about the test:

It may be used as an alternative to the Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) in all circumstances in which the TST is used, including;

- Contact investigations
- Evaluation of recent immigrants with BCG
- TB screening of health care workers
- Serial evaluation for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection

Why? There are limitations of the TST, including:

- Placement error
- Reader variability
- "Boost" response
- Low specificity in certain circumstances:
 - bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) vaccination
 - nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) infection
- Low sensitivity in certain circumstances:
 - ICH hosts
- Low compliance (2 visits)

Advantages of the QuantiFERON Gold over the TST test include:

QuantiFERON®	TST
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Basic phlebotomy● Single visit● Objective interpretation● In vitro test● No "boost" response● Not affected by BCG or most NTM infection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Subject to placement error● Return visit required● Subjective interpretation● In vivo test● "Boost" response" (2-step)● False-positives possible due to BCG or NTM infection