

**DATE:** 2/7/2018  
**TO:** Attending Staff, House Staff, Nursing, Clinics  
**FROM:** Dr. Fred Apple, Medical Director, Clinical Laboratories  
**SUBJECT:** **TB Testing Method Change**

Effective 2/13/18, HCMC's clinical laboratory will begin running the QuantiFERON TB Gold Plus testing for TB testing rather than the T-Spot. This change will improve testing efficiency as well as reduce the number of indeterminate results. Comparison of QuantiFERON TB Gold testing and our historical T-Spot testing indicates that both assays are highly concordant for detection of latent TB.

The sample type of two full dark green lithium heparin tubes will remain the same. QuantiFERON samples can be drawn any day of the week as long as they are received in the laboratory within 10 hours of collection.

The test name in EPIC will now be QuantiFERON TB Gold Plus. After February 13, 2018 any T-Spot TB test ordered will be reordered as the QuantiFERON-TB test.

Low level positive QuantiFERON TB Gold results may require laboratory consultation for interpretation.

Please contact Dr. Apple (873-3324), Dr. Hansen (873-3026), Dr. Love (873-2813), or Jennifer Nicholson (Chemistry Supervisor, 873-3017) with any questions.