

Collection

1. Collect 1 mL of blood into **each of 4 tubes**.

- **Tubes fill slowly.**
- Use of a syringe may ensure correct blood volume.
- When tube is upright, blood must meet the small black mark on the label
- If butterfly needle is used, first collect other required tubes or use a “purge” tube to remove the air and then proceed with collecting the QTB tubes.
- Immediately **shake** the tubes firmly 10 times as entire inner surface of tube must be coated with blood.
- Over-energetic shaking may cause gel disruption and could lead to aberrant results.

2. Label tubes such that “QuantiFERON” band and entire specimen volume and black mark are visible.

3. Maintain tubes at room temperature until incubation.

- **It is recommended that incubation at your facility start as soon as possible.**
- **Incubation must be started within 16 hours of collection.**

Processing

Note: QTB specimens that have not been incubated and centrifuged will be rejected. See steps 4-7.

4. Invert tubes for 5 seconds immediately before incubation.

5. Incubate all 4 tubes upright at 37°C for 16-24 hours.

- **Do Not** use waterbath or heat block for incubation.
- Improper incubation may cause erroneous results.

6. **Centrifuge tubes for 15 minutes at 2,000-3,000 RCF (g).**

7. Place all 4 tubes together in the supplied QTB transport bag.

8. Store refrigerated 2-8°C. Stable 28 days refrigerate.

9. Send refrigerate with next courier pick-up or ship with an overnight carrier.