

## NEW TEST BULLETIN

# QuantiFERON-TB Gold (QFT®)

Dear Valued Client:

WMPL is pleased to announce that we will now offer the QuantiFERON-TB Gold (QFT®) test. QFT is a simple blood test that aids in the detection of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacteria that causes tuberculosis (TB). QuantiFERON-TB Gold is a **modern alternative to the 100-year-old tuberculin skin test (TST or Mantoux)**.<sup>1</sup> It measures the cell-mediated immune response (cytokines) to very specific TB antigens. It is an interferon-gamma (IFN- $\gamma$ ) release assay, commonly known as an IGRA.<sup>1</sup>

Testing will begin at West Pacific Medical Laboratory on March 2, 2015.

### Why Use QFT?

- ü Highly specific and accurate
- ü Unaffected by BCG vaccination
- ü Unlike TST, no boosting of results created by prior testing<sup>2</sup>
- ü Ideal for serial screening
- ü Fast results

Test Code	CPT Code	Specimen Requirements
<b>2491</b>	<b>86480</b>	<b>1 mL blood by venipuncture into TB Antigen tube, Mitogen tube and Nil tube.</b>

\*Note: specimens must arrive within 16 hours

**For further questions, please ask your WPML Representative or call our Technical Services team at (877) 537-IABS (5227).**

<sup>1</sup>Mazurek GH et al. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated Guidelines for Using Interferon Gamma Release Assays to Detect Mycobacterium tuberculosis Infection. MMWR 2010; 5:1-28

<sup>2</sup> van Zyl-Smit R et al. Am J Respir Crit Care Med 2009; 180(1):49-58.