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Quantiferon tb gold test cost

QFT-Plus works by exposing your blood lymphocytes (immune cells) to highly specific TB antigens (parts of the bacteria that causes TB), which causes the lymphocytes to produce a quantifiable small molecule called Interferon-γ (IFN-γ). Interferon-gamma production is correlated to the presence or absence of TB infection, and this IFN-γ response is measured in a laboratory to aid in the diagnosis of TB infection. There are three possible QFT-Plus results: Positive - suggests that TB infection is likely Negative - suggests that TB infection is unlikely Indeterminate - suggests the need for further investigations or repeat testing {{exam_data.answers_set[index]}} Can I book a {{exam_data.exam_title}} near me? Booking a {{exam_data.exam_title}} is easy using LabFinder. Just choose your location and enter your insurance information to find the closest {{exam_data.exam_title}} near you. How can I make a same-day appointment for a {{exam_data.exam_title}}? To make a same day appointment for a {{exam_data.exam_title}}, just choose your location and your insurance information to find the closest {{exam_data.exam_title}} location near you. If there's availability for a same-day appointment at a nearby lab location, then you will be able to book it easily through LabFinder. Where can I schedule a {{exam_data.exam_title}}? LabFinder allows you to easily schedule a {{exam_data.exam_title}}. You can search by location and insurance to easily book a {{exam_data.exam_title}} near you. Can I make an appointment for {{exam_data.exam_title}} online? LabFinder allows you to easily make an appointment for a {{exam_data.exam_title}} online. To make an appointment for a {{exam_data.exam_title}} online, just choose your location and your insurance information to find the closest {{exam_data.exam_title}} near you. Can I get a {{exam_data.exam_title}} without insurance? Yes, you can get a {{exam_data.exam_title}} without insurance. LabFinder allows you to search and select "Self-Pay" when booking a {{exam_data.exam_title}}. While pricing for the test may not be immediately available, please check by calling the lab company directly for pricing. Your visit Our services Get involved Work for us About us Contact us Call us now MAKE SURE you bring your PHOTO ID with you (passport/ drivers licence) AppointmentPriceBlood Test by DoctorOne-off £39 admin fee (per visit)- plus laboratory cost (select your blood test for prices). - £5 surcharge on weekends To See Our Main Blood Testing section for this, please visit our Microbiology & Infections Blood Testing page. This is a blood test which is used to aid in the diagnosis of Latent Tuberculosis infections and active Tuberculosis (TB) disease. You should wait for 6 weeks after exposure to a person with active TB to do this blood test (as it takes about 6 weeks for the test to become positive after exposure). TB is a very infectious disease that can affect many body areas, but primarily affects the lungs. It spreads from person to person by coughing, sneezing and breathing. Most of those who become infected manage to confine it to a few cells in their body, where it stays alive in an inactive form- this is called Latent TB (it does not make you feel sick and you are not infectious and in many, does not progress to active TB- but in some, it does). However in a few, especially those who are immunocompromised, it may proceed directly to active progressive TB, which can be very dangerous. In classical active lung TB, you may have a chronic cough (sometimes with bloody sputum), a fever, weight loss and weakness. If TB affects other organs, you may have back pain, joint pains, anaemia, urinary tract pain, abdominal pain, heart chest pain or a headache/ confusion. Sputum for TB culture may also be requested. The disadvantage with this test is that it is not suitable to check for in children under 17 years of age and those who are immunocompromised. It may also give a false positive if the patient has another type of mycobacterial infection. After this, an Xray of the chest may be requested by your doctor to look for active TB or latent TB. If you are worried that you may have been in contact with someone with 'open chest TB' (that has TB and was coughing around you), if you are over 35 years of age, you can ask for an Xray of your chest to check if you have contracted it. If you are under 35 years of age, your doctor will refer you to the TB clinic to have a mantoux skin prick test. (From Department of Health and Human Services, City of Long Beach, 1997) Is QuantiFERON®-TB Gold as good as the skin test? Studies show that QuantiFERON®-TB Gold is as good as, if not better than, the TB skin test in helping to diagnose TB infection. Also, since the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test uses proteins that are found only in the TB bacteria, it is much more accurate than the TB skin test, which can react to other bacteria in the same group as TB, giving a false positive test. I've had TB skin tests in the past - will that make my QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test positive? No, the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold will only be positive if you have a TB infection. The solution injected under your skin during the TB skin test does not contain the same parts of TB bacteria as the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test uses. I've had the Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine and I've heard that can cause a false positive skin test. Will that make my QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test positive, too? No. BCG does not affect the results of the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test. While it's true that BCG can give you a false positive skin test, the proteins used in the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test are not found in BCG, so the BCG will not give you a false positive QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test. What kind of results do you get with the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test? Most times, the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test gives a positive or negative result. The positive result means you are infected with TB, and the negative result usually means you are not infected with TB. Sometimes, the result will not be either positive or negative. In this case, the result is called "indeterminate." An indeterminate result may mean that your white blood cells are not working well due to a weakened immune system. If your result comes out as indeterminate, the test should be repeated, and if the second result is also indeterminate, you will need to talk to your doctor about what to do next. What are the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test advantages over a TB skin test? QuantiFERON®-TB Gold has a number of important advantages compared to the TB skin test: • Since it is a blood test, the QuantiFERON®-TB Gold: o Is easier to do than the TB skin test;o Avoids the risk of having a severe reaction to the TB skin test;Is done in a single visit. Does not require a return visit for TB skin test results;o Reduces the chances of misreading the TB skin test result;o Is a more accurate test (fewer false positives) than the TB skin test, and this means it is less likely you will be asked to take an unnecessary chest X-ray or treatment for possible TB infection. What happens if my TB skin test or QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test is positive? If either test is positive, it means you are infected with TB. A positive result cannot say if the TB infection is active or not, so you will need to have a chest X-ray and a review of any symptoms related to TB. You may need other tests as well, and treatment for the infection will be recommended. What happens if my TB skin test or QuantiFERON®-TB Gold test is indeterminate? Unfortunately around 5% of results can come back as being "indeterminate." This means that your result is neither positive or negative. This usually does not mean you are positive and often it is a sign of being negative. In some, this may mean that you have an immunodeficiency of some sort that does not allow a result to be produced. You may wish to repeat the test if you desire, but this may be a needless expense for you as invariably the result on the repeat is often the same. Welcome to The GP Surgery. To provide the best experiences, we use technologies like cookies to store and/or access device information. Consenting to these technologies will allow us to process data such as browsing behaviour or unique IDs on this site. Not consenting or withdrawing consent, may adversely affect certain features and functions. Functional Functional Always active The technical storage or access is strictly necessary for the legitimate purpose of enabling the use of the specific service explicitly requested by the subscriber or user, for the sole purpose of carrying out the transmission of a communication over an electronic communications network. Preferences Preferences The technical storage or access is necessary for the legitimate purposes of storing preferences that are not requested by the subscriber or user. Statistics Statistics The technical storage or access that is used exclusively for statistical purposes. The technical storage or access that is used exclusively for anonymous statistical purposes. Without a subpoena, voluntary compliance on the part of your Internet Service Provider, or additional records from a third party, information stored or retrieved for this purpose alone cannot usually be used to identify you. Marketing Marketing The technical storage or access is required to create user profiles to send advertising, or to track the user on a website or across several websites for similar marketing purposes. The Quantiferon TB Gold test is the preferred blood test for tuberculosis (TB) screening today. However, with rising healthcare costs, many patients wonder - how much does the Quantiferon TB Gold test cost?In this extensive guide, we dive deep into the pricing factors, real-world costs, and money-saving tips for this important medical test.HighlightsQuantiferon TB test costs range from \$80 - \$200+ (=1.7 days working without days off at \$15/hour) without insuranceReal-world pricing also depends on location, provider, feesUse in-network providers and maximize insurance to reduce out-of-pocket costsCompare costs between local labs and clinics, ask for discountsPublic health programs assist those unable to afford testingHow Much Does a Quantiferon TB Gold Test Cost?So how much does the Quantiferon TB Gold test cost? Let's break down what goes into the pricing.Base Price RangeOn average, you can expect to pay somewhere between \$80 to \$200 (=1.7 days working without days off at \$15/hour) for the basic Quantiferon TB Gold test without insurance. However, the final price can vary significantly based on factors we'll explore in this article.To budget for this test, it's wise to estimate on the higher end, around \$200 (=1.7 days working without days off at \$15/hour), to account for additional potential fees. In major metropolitan areas, base prices over \$200 (=1.7 days working without days off at \$15/hour) are also common.Itemized CostsThe overall price of Quantiferon TB testing comprises several itemized costs:Lab test fee - This base fee covers the actual Quantiferon lab test kit, blood analysis, and result reporting. Prices start around \$80 (=5.3 hours of your workday at a \$15/hour wage) but often exceed \$150 (=1.3 days of continuous work at a \$15/hour job).Blood draw fee - Having blood drawn will incur an additional fee, often \$10-\$25 (=1.7 hours of labor required at \$15/hour). This may be waived if done during a doctor's visit.Office visit fee - Expect to pay a standard office visit fee if your doctor orders the test during an appointment. Often \$30-\$75 (=5 hours of labor required at \$15/hour) depending on visit type.Miscellaneous fees - Separate fees can apply for nurse services, blood handling, or administrative processes associated with testing. These vary.Insurance adjustments - Insured patients will pay negotiated test prices usually lower than standard lab rates.Itemized billing allows labs to charge well over \$200 (=1.7 days working without days off at \$15/hour) for Quantiferon testing, sometimes over \$300 (=2.5 days of labor continuously at a \$15/hour wage) when all separate fees are added up. Ask for an itemized bill to better understand the costs.Factors That Increase the Test PriceSeveral factors can influence the Quantiferon TB test price, causing costs to be higher than average:Geographic location - Prices in major metro areas like New York City and San Francisco often exceed rural areas.Hospital vs private labs - Large hospital labs tend to charge more than small independent labs.Added rush fees - Requesting expedited 24-hour results can add \$50 (=3.3 hours of labor required at \$15/hour) or more.Multiple panels - Running additional lab tests on the blood sample adds incremental costs.Out-of-network labs - Using a non-preferred lab leads to higher patient responsibility.No insurance - Uninsured patients pay more overall compared to insured negotiated rates.To minimize costs, choose an in-network provider in a lower-cost region when possible. Decline rush processing unless urgently needed.Real-World Pricing ExamplesTo understand real Quantiferon TB test costs, here are sample prices from actual healthcare providers:Primary care clinic (Los Angeles, CA) - \$256 (=2.1 days of non-stop labor at a \$15/hour salary) total price comprising a \$150 (=1.3 days of continuous work at a \$15/hour job) Quantiferon test fee, \$25 (=1.7 hours of labor required at \$15/hour) blood draw fee, and \$81 (=5.4 hours of your workday at a \$15/hour wage) office visit fee.Travel clinic (Dallas, TX) - \$219 (=1.8 days of continuous work at a \$15/hour job) total price covering a \$140 (=1.2 days of labor continuously at a \$15/hour wage) Quantiferon test, \$39 (=2.6 hours at the office earning \$15/hour) blood draw, and \$40 (=2.7 hours of labor required at \$15/hour) administrative fees.Independent lab (Rochester, NY) - \$135 (=1.1 days working to pay for this at \$15/hour) total price for Quantiferon test. No additional fees.Urgent care (Miami, FL) - \$395 (=3.3 days of non-stop labor at a \$15/hour salary) total price including Quantiferon test (\$165 (=1.4 days of labor continuously at a \$15/hour wage)), office visit (\$125 (=1 day working without days off at \$15/hour)), and blood draw (\$35 (=2.3 hours of uninterrupted labor at \$15/hour)) fees plus a \$70 (=4.7 hours to sacrifice at work earning \$15/hour) urgent care premium.This sampling illustrates how real-world pricing can hit both ends of the spectrum from \$100 to \$400 (=3.3 days of your career at \$15/hour) depending on provider type and location.You might also like our articles on the cost of tuberculosis tests, pulmonary function tests, or titer tests.What is the Quantiferon Test?The Quantiferon TB Gold blood test is a modern tuberculosis screening tool used to detect latent TB infection. This test offers greater accuracy and convenience compared to the old tuberculin skin test.The Quantiferon test works by measuring the immune system's response to TB bacteria. A lab technician will draw a vial of the patient's blood and mix it with TB peptide antigens. If the white blood cells recognize the TB antigens, they release interferon-gamma, indicating the body's immune response against tuberculosis.Advantages of the Quantiferon blood test include:Higher specificity - Less chance of false positives compared to skin testingFaster results - Get accurate diagnosis within 24 hours rather than 2+ doctor visits for skin test readingSingle patient visit - No need to return for skin test interpretationWith improved accuracy and speed, the Quantiferon TB Gold test has become the frontline choice for TB screening today. It is primarily used to test for latent TB infection in higher-risk populations such as healthcare workers, individuals from endemic regions, or those with compromised immune systems.What is Included in the Quantiferon Test?The basic Quantiferon TB Gold test includes:Quantiferon TB Gold Plus lab testing kitProcessing and analysis of blood sampleEvaluation for an immune response indicating TB infectionReport on presence/absence of TB bacteria antigensNo additional exams or procedures are directly included beyond the Quantiferon blood test itself. Separate charges apply for medical visits, blood draws, or additional lab work.However, some expanded versions of Quantiferon testing offer more:Quantiferon-TB Gold Plus - Tests for CD8 cell immunity against TB for \$50-\$100 (=6.7 hours of continuous work at a \$15/hour job) moreQuantiferon-TB Gold In-Tube - Includes negative control tube at \$20-\$50 (=3.3 hours of labor required at \$15/hour) higher priceQuantiferon-TB Gold Plus for Travel - Bundle with other travel-related blood tests like Hepatitis A/B, HIV, etc.Discuss the appropriate version with your healthcare provider. Basic Quantiferon Gold often suffices for general screening.Quantiferon Test ProcedureUndergoing Quantiferon TB testing involves a simple process:Blood Draw - A phlebotomist will draw 1 ml of whole blood, usually from the arm. This takes only a few minutes.Incubation - The lab divides blood into four tubes. One contains TB antigens to stimulate immune response. Others serve as controls. Tubes incubate overnight.Analysis - Lab machines detect any interferon-gamma released, signaling TB bacteria presence. Results within 24 hours.Results - The lab reports Quantiferon results to the ordering physician. May also be viewed via a patient portal.The streamlined Quantiferon process provides results the next day. No need to return for interpretation like with the tuberculin skin test. This makes it more convenient.Understanding Your Test ResultsQuantiferon TB test results will indicate one of three outcomes:Positive - TB antigens detected. Indicates likely latent or active TB infection. Follow-up testing is needed.Negative - No measurable immune response. No TB infection was detected.Indeterminate - Ambiguous results. A retest may be required for confirmation.Discuss your results with the ordering physician. Positive or ambiguous findings warrant follow-up chest imaging and evaluation to confirm TB status.Early detection via Quantiferon allows prompt treatment if active TB is found. This minimizes the risk of transmission and improves outcomes.Health Insurance CoverageFor insured patients, most major health plans cover the Quantiferon TB Gold test with prior authorization:Medicare - Part B covers the test for patients at risk when medically necessary.Medicaid - Fully covered for high-risk Medicaid recipients per state regulations.Private insurance - Aetna, Cigna, UnitedHealthcare, and others cover the test for adults 18-64 meeting CDC guidelines.Employee health - Often covered for healthcare workers under occupational health.Coverage levels range from 60% to 100% after meeting your policy's annual deductible. Out-of-pocket costs may apply if subject to coinsurance.Maximizing Insurance BenefitsTo get the maximum insurance benefits for Quantiferon testing:Verify coverage - Call in advance to confirm the test is covered and if prior approval is needed.Use in-network labs - This helps avoid costly out-of-network fees that minimally count toward deductible/out-of-pocket maximums.Get preauthorization - If required by your plan, have your doctor request approval ahead of time.Ask about cash prices - Uninsured patients can sometimes negotiate better rates when paying cash upfront.Appeal denials - If coverage is denied, appeal with help from your doctor explaining medical necessity.With proper planning using in-network providers, insured patients can often get Quantiferon TB testing for their policy's standard lab cost-share, for example a \$20 (=1.3 hours of your life traded for \$15/hour) copay.Paying for the Test Without InsuranceFor uninsured patients, the Quantiferon TB Gold test becomes more expensive - often \$200 (=1.7 days working without days off at \$15/hour) or more in total. Here are some tips to reduce costs when self-paying:Use independent labs - They tend to offer lower cash pay rates compared to big hospitals.Don't overpay - Shop around and compare costs between area providers.Ask for discounts - Uninsured patients can request discounted cash prices from some labs.Use payment plans - Inquire if labs offer installment plans to split costs interest-free over time.Get just the test - Decline extras like office visits or rush fees to minimize ancillary costs.Apply for assistance - Local health departments or clinics may provide free or sliding scale testing.With smart shopping, uninsured patients can sometimes find Quantiferon testing for \$100-150 even without benefits.Public Health Assistance OptionsFor those who can't afford Quantiferon TB testing, public health programs exist to help:Health DepartmentsEvery county has a health department offering essential services. Many provide free or discounted TB tests for uninsured residentsTesting for high-risk groups like migrants, homelessVisit your local health department or search "[YourCounty] Health Department TB Testing" to find nearby options.TB Control ProgramsState and county TB control programs assist those affected by TB. Services may include:Free testing, treatment, x-raysSupport services like translation, transportationCase managementFind your state TB control program via the CDC Division of Tuberculosis Elimination.Community ClinicsNon-profit clinics often serve lower-income groups. Look for community health centers offering:Sliding scale fees based on incomeFree care for qualifying incomesUse the HHS Community Health Center finder to locate clinics providing affordable Quantiferon testing.Check if you qualify for any programs. Those in need have options for low or no-cost TB screening.Choosing Where to Get TestedThere are many options for where to get Quantiferon TB testing:Primary care doctor - Your main physician can order the test during a visit.Specialist office - Doctors like pulmonologists or infectious disease specialists may provide the test.Urgent care - Offers rapid testing during TB symptom screening.Travel clinic - Recommended for international travel medical requirements.Hospital lab - Outpatient draw stations perform the test.Independent lab - Quest, LabCorp, and smaller labs all offer the test.Health department - County health departments test high-risk clients.Consider convenience, cost, and insurance coverage when choosing where to get tested. In-network independent labs are often the most affordable option for insured patients.Uninsured patients can check community clinics or health departments first, before comparing costs at private labs.Questions about Quantiferon TB TestingBelow are answers to some frequently asked questions about the Quantiferon TB Gold test:How often do I need the test?For low-risk individuals, one baseline test is recommended. Those with ongoing TB exposure may need annual or bi-annual re-testing. Discuss optimal frequency with your doctor.What if testing is required for work/travel?Many employers and countries require TB testing for clearance purposes. In these cases, cover the cost of mandatory Quantiferon testing and pursue reimbursement from your employer, airline, or travel insurance provider as applicable.How long for results?Quantiferon results are available within 24 hours after blood is drawn. The lab reports results to the ordering physician. Some also make results available via online patient portal.Can I get results without a doctor?A physician order is required for testing. However, you can request results be shared directly with you as well. Check if your lab has a patient portal to view results.Where is testing available?Quantiferon TB Gold testing is widely available at doctor's offices, labs, hospitals, and clinics. Contact your preferred provider to verify if they offer the test.The Value of the TestWhile no medical test is inexpensive today, the Quantiferon TB Gold test provides high value:Accurate, convenient detection of latent TB infectionAllows early treatment to prevent TB from spreadingAverts serious health complications and hospital billsFor those at risk of tuberculosis, the benefits of prompt detection and care facilitated by Quantiferon testing outweigh the cost burdens. Get the right test at a reasonable price to safeguard your health.Frequently Asked QuestionsHow much does QuantiFERON TB Gold Plus cost?On average, the QuantiFERON Gold Plus test costs between \$150-250. The "Plus" version tests for additional TB strains but is similarly priced.How much does the QFT Plus test cost?As a brand name for QuantiFERON Gold Plus, the QFT Plus test costs about \$200 on average when not covered by insurance. Discount programs can reduce the test cost to \$50-100 for qualified applicants.Should QuantiFERON gold test be done yearly?For most patients, yearly QuantiFERON TB testing is not necessary. Guidelimes recommend testing high-risk individuals at regular intervals, such as healthcare workers. Talk to your doctor about appropriate testing frequency. Tuberculosis QuantiFERON TB gold{this is a custom blood test for Tuberculosis (QuantiFERON-TB gold).Tuberculosis (QuantiFERON-TB gold).This service is only available to the age of 13 and above.Furthermore, Any cancellation or rescheduling within 48 hours before the appointment will incur a charge of 20% of the total service cost and missed appointments will be deemed non-refundable.