

July 16, 2025

To All OSPHL QuantiFERON® Testing Clients,

The Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) is pleased to announce the addition of a second specimen collection and transport option for QuantiFERON® testing (QFT) with our laboratory. Beginning Monday, July 21, 2025, OSPHL will accept specimens collected into a single lithium-heparin tube for QFT.

What will change?

A new option will be added to our Lab Test Menu to permit collection of the QFT specimen into a single lithium heparin tube.

- OSPHL will supply the lithium heparin tubes to submitting facilities. Tubes can be ordered using the OSPHL Stockroom Order Request Form, available at www.bitly.com/phl-forms.

Tuberculosis	
Sputum, NAAT (respiratory specimens)	EA
QuantiFERON – Single Tube Collection (lithium heparin)	EA
QuantiFERON – Four Tube Collection	EA

- Specimens collected into lithium heparin tubes must be stored at **refrigerated** temperatures and arrive at OSPHL within **44 hours** of collection.

Complete specimen collection and transportation details can be found on our Lab Test Menu at www.healthoregon.org/labtests.

What will not change?

OSPHL will continue to accept the four-tube collection for QFT in our laboratory.

- Specimen acceptance criteria for this collection method have not changed.
- Complete specimen collection and transportation details can be found on our Lab Test Menu for QFT Four-Tube Collection.

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Continue to request specimen pick-up using the [OSPHL Courier Order Request Form](#).

- For “Testing Requested,” you will now see options for “QuantiFERON – Single Tube” and “QuantiFERON – Four Tube.”
- Select the option for the collection you have or will complete for your patient.

A side-by-side fact sheet of both available collection methods is provided as an attachment to this message and is linked from both QFT Test Menu Pages.

If you are interested in beginning QuantiFERON® testing with OSPHL, please contact the OSPHL General Microbiology Section Manager at 503-693-4100.

Sincerely,


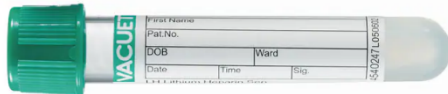
Matthew Burns, MSc
General Microbiology Manager, OSPHL

Attachment:

- OSPHL QFT Collection Fact Sheet



OSPHL QuantiFERON® Specimen Collection¹ Fact Sheet

	Four-Tube Collection	Single-Tube Collection
Test Menu Details	QuantiFERON®-TB Gold Plus (QFT) - Four Tube Collection²	QuantiFERON®-TB Gold Plus (QFT) - Single Tube Collection³
Collection Container	<p>Four QFT collection tubes</p> 	<p>One lithium heparin tube</p> 
Collection	0.8 to 1.2 mL blood in all four QFT tubes Gently invert all four tubes 10 times	5.0 mL blood into one lithium heparin tube Gently invert to dissolve heparin
Specimen Labeling	On each tube: at least two complete patient identifiers (first and last name; date of birth; medical record number) and date and time of collection.	
Storage before Transport	Room temperature (17-27°C) Do not centrifuge	Refrigerated temperatures (2-8°C) Do not centrifuge
Courier Pick Up* “Testing Requested”	QuantiFERON – Four Tube	QuantiFERON – Single Tube
Transport Temperature	Ambient temperatures	Refrigerated temperatures
Delivery Timeline	Arrive to OSPHL within 16 hours of specimen collection	Arrive to OSPHL within 44 hours of specimen collection

*Request courier pick-up using the online [OSPHL Courier Order Request Form](#), available from www.bitly.com/phl-courier.

¹ This page is a summary of specimen acceptance criteria for QuantiFERON® testing. For complete details, access the Test Menu Details linked on this page.

² <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/LABORATORYSERVICES/Pages/zQFTPlus.aspx>

³ <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/LABORATORYSERVICES/Pages/zQFTPlusSingle.aspx>