



## T-SPOT TB TESTING

### An Interferon-Gamma Release Assay (IGRA)

September 2017

T-SPOT is an indirect test for Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection and is intended for use in conjunction with risk assessment, radiography and other medical and diagnostic evaluation tools. T-SPOT can be used to screen at risk groups or as an aid in diagnosis of active TB disease. IGRAs cannot differentiate latent tuberculosis infection from active tuberculosis disease.

The assay detects T cells that respond to stimulation by *M. tuberculosis* antigens ESAT-6 and CFP 10 by capturing interferon gamma in the vicinity of T cells in whole blood. These antigens are absent from BCG strains utilized in MTB vaccines and from most non-tuberculous mycobacteria.

**Note: A false positive T-SPOT result may occur in individuals with a *M. xenopi*, *M. kansasii*, *M. szulgai*, *M. goodii* or *M. mageritense* infection.**

#### SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS

- Specimen:** Whole blood, unspun  
Minimum: **6 mLs** Lithium Heparin, Green Top Tube without separator.  
**\*Must be full draw\* Specimen collection Sunday – Thursday only**
- Stability:** Room temperature; 32 hours

#### CAUSE FOR REJECTION

- EDTA Plasma Tube
- >32 hours from collection
- Insufficient Sample (6mL min)
- Samples collected Friday or Saturday due to Specimen Stability

#### METHOD

Enzyme-linked Immunospot

#### REFERENCE RANGE

Negative

#### PRODUCTION

Monday – Friday

#### CPT CODE\*

**86481**

#### SOFT CODE\*\*

**TSPOT**

\*CPT codes provided are for informational purposes only. Questions regarding coding should be directed to the payer.

\*\*Codes in your EMR may differ.