

Title	QuantiFERON®-TB Gold
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Reference	Technology Review Report – 0013/2013, online: http://www.moh.gov.my/index.php/database_stores/store_view_page/30/216

Aim

To review evidence on the efficacy, safety and cost-effectiveness of QuantiFERON®-TB Gold as diagnostic tools for detection of patient with LTBI and active TB

Conclusions and results

QuantiFERON®-TB Gold appeared to have numerous advantages over TST such as higher specificity, PPV and NPV in adult population in low TB prevalence countries, better relationship with *M. tuberculosis* exposure, and lower cross-reaction rates with BCG vaccination and NTM. There was also evidence to suggest that QFT-alone was likely to be more costly but more effective than TST in Japan and United States.

Recommendations

Overall, due to its higher specificity and lower cross-reaction rates with BCG vaccination and NTM, whole blood-based QuantiFERON®-TB (QFT) can be used as an alternative to TST for detection of patient with LTBI.

Methods

Electronic databases were searched, which included PubMed, Medline, Journal @ Ovid full text via OVID, OVID EBM Reviews - Cochrane central register of controlled trials, EBM Reviews - Cochrane database of systematic review, Horizon scanning databases - Centre, Birmingham, Australia and New Zealand Horizon Scanning (ANZHSN), FDA website, MHRA website and from non scientific database - Google search engine. In addition, a cross-referencing of the articles retrieved was also carried out accordingly to the topic. Relevant articles were critically appraised and evidence graded using US/Canadian Preventive Services Task Force.

Further research/reviews required

Analyzing cost-effectiveness is more complex because the results vary with many factors including the population being tested.

Written by

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