

## Consumer Handout | Canberra Health Services

# Tuberculosis (TB) testing

TB testing is also known as TB-QuantIFERON-Gold. This is a blood test which is used to see if you have been infected with TB in the past.

Most people who have been infected with TB, never develop the disease. Some people, however, will develop symptoms at some stage over their life. People with a poor immune system, due to chemotherapy or medications following organ transplantation are at greater risk of developing symptoms.

The aim of this test is to check if you have been infected by TB so you can be treated to prevent future illness.

## Testing at ACT Pathology

TB testing is available at the following ACT Pathology collection centres:

- **Canberra Hospital collection centre** - Building 10 (next to maternity) - Monday to Thursday 7:30am to 4:00pm, Phone (02) 5124 2816
- **Canberra Region Cancer Centre collection centre (for oncology, haematology and immunology patients only)** – Canberra Hospital Building 19 - Monday to Thursday 7:30am to 3:00pm
- **North Canberra Hospital collection centre** - Monday to Thursday 7:30am to 2:00pm

## Costs

The TB test can only be bulk billed via Medicare when the request form includes clinical notes that states you have either been exposed to someone with TB, or you are about to become immunosuppressed, or you have silicosis. Other high-risk patients may have the cost covered by ACT Health TB screening programs. The cost of the test for all other people is \$50

## How long does it take for results?

Results of TB screening tests are usually delivered to the requesting clinician after five days.



## Acknowledgement of Country

Canberra Health Services acknowledges the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognises any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and contribution to the life of this region.



**Accessibility:** call 02 5124 0000



**Interpreter:** call 131 450 [canberrahealthservices.act.gov.au/accessibility](https://canberrahealthservices.act.gov.au/accessibility)



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