

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS FOR REPLACING TB SKIN TESTING WITH QUANTIFERON BLOOD TEST

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Cost for TB Skin Testing

- ▣ **Personnel**
- ▣ Average hourly wage for nursing/medical assistant
 - ▣ \$15 hourly avg.
- ▣ Estimated time (per patient) taken to place and then read test (17 minutes)
 - ▣ 0.28 hr.
- ▣ Total personnel cost per skin test
 - ▣ \$4.25 for nursing time
- ▣ **Supplies**
- ▣ Cost per patient of test antigen
 - ▣ \$10.00 per test
- ▣ Injection material
 - ▣ \$0.30 per syringe
- ▣ Total
 - ▣ \$14.55 cost per patient

Total personnel and supplies cost per patient

- ▣ \$18.80

- ▣ Clinic active patients
 - ▣ Already skin test positive patients who would not be tested
 - ▣ Number who require testing each year
 - ▣ %who fail to return and need re-testing
 - ▣ # Retests each year
 - ▣ Total tests needed each year
- ▣ 2000 per year
 - ▣ 300 (approximate)
 - ▣ 1700
 - ▣ 30%
 - ▣ 510
 - ▣ 2210

- ▣ Total \$ per year of TB skin testing.....\$41,548
- ▣ Total \$ per year for Quantiferon \$51,000
 - Based on a lab cost of \$30 per test
 - Not included are costs for blood draw (add on to other ordered lab tests)
- ▣ QF testing would increase cost by\$9,452
 - About 20% more costly
 - With QF we would get 100% testing compliance
 - Decreased staff time (626 hours)
 - Improved patient convenience