



## Expert opinion

# New evidence. One clear message.



## IGRA tests like QuantiFERON®-TB Gold Plus improve TB screening in migrant populations

As global mobility increases, so does the importance of tuberculosis infection (TBI) screening strategies that are both **clinically effective and cost-efficient**. These latest studies reinforce the role of interferon-gamma release assays (IGRAs) such as QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus (QFT®-Plus) as a frontline tool in migrant tuberculosis (TB) screening programs.

With an increase in global movement of people from countries where TB is prevalent, effective screening is more critical than ever. IGRA testing improves detection accuracy and helps optimize public health resources and treatment outcomes.

# The latest evidence highlights the importance of including IGRAs in TB screening strategies

## **Cost-effectiveness study** (*Journal of Infection and Public Health*, July 2025)

*"Cost-effectiveness of tuberculosis infection screening and treatment among high-tuberculosis risk immigrants and asylum seekers"*

This cohort modelling study (1) concluded that **TB infection (TBI) entry screening is a cost-effective alternative** to chest X-ray for immigrants and asylum seekers from high TB burden countries, *when paired with sufficient treatment completion.*

## **Systematic review** (*European Respiratory Journal*, April 2025)

*"How to diagnose TB in migrants?"*

This systematic review (2) and modelling study confirmed that **adding IGRA testing, such as QFT-Plus**, to existing TB screening strategies delivers **high accuracy with excellent sensitivity and specificity**. The results support incorporating TBI testing in migrant TB screening.

### **Studies prove that TBI screening in migrant populations:**

- Is cost effective
- Increases the efficiency of TB screening when done using IGRAs such as QFT-Plus



Visit [www.qiagen.com/migrants-tb-testing](https://www.qiagen.com/migrants-tb-testing) to learn more about the evidence and how QFT-Plus can support your migrant TBI screening program.



#### References:

1. Hontelez JAC, et al. Cost-effectiveness of tuberculosis infection screening and treatment among high-tuberculosis risk immigrants and asylum seekers in The Netherlands: A cohort modelling study. *J Infect Public Health*. Published online July 7, 2025. doi:10.1016/j.jiph.2025.102889
2. Zenner D, et al. How to diagnose TB in migrants? A systematic review of reviews and decision tree analytical modelling exercise to evaluate properties for single and combined TB screening tests. *Eur Respir J*. 2025 Apr 23:2402000. doi: 10.1183/13993003.02000-2024.

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