

Primate Assay Laboratory (PAL) Update

January 2019

Happy New Year from PAL!

We look forward to continuing to provide laboratory testing to support your work this year. Our 2019 is off and running. We hope it's off to a good start for all of you.

We are excited to announce that we are ready to begin accepting samples for our Gamma InterFeron TB Test (GIFT). As you know, Primagam was discontinued by its manufacturer and we have been working on an alternative. We have successfully completed initial validation studies with a limited number known *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex group uninfected and experimentally infected monkeys. A paper describing this work is being submitted for publication. The results to date indicate good performance characteristics; but to do more complete validation studies we need to test larger numbers of samples. Thus, we are ready to accept samples for testing at a reduced cost (materials without labor) if you agree to provide us with exposure, clinical, and other history related to possible tuberculosis. Please contact us so we can explain in more detail.

This year's **holidays** are:

Nov 28- Dec 1, 2019

Dec 21, 2018 – Jan 2, 2019

We won't be able to receive samples these dates unless you make arrangements in advance. Whenever you are shipping samples, it's a good idea to let us know a package is coming so we can make sure it arrives and/or track it as needed before it is too late. This is especially true during holiday or inclement weather weeks- when shipping can be challenging even though we are open.

