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| **Processing a Bronchoalveolar Lavage**  |
| **Purpose** | This procedure provides instructions on processing of Bronchoalveolar [lavage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lavage) (BAL). |
| **Policy Statements** | * Upon receipt of a BAL in the lab the sample will go directly to microbiology for processing.
* If more than one sample is obtained from the patient, call the provider to clarify if the samples are supposed to be treated separately or pooled together.
* Micro will note and document the total volume of the sample before processing.
* Micro will order all tests/receive all BAL tests ordered by provider.
* In Minneapolis, during the day shift, Micro is ONLY responsible for ordering and receiving Microbiology and send out tests such as BRC and FUNG. Manual hematology techs are responsible for ordering and processing hematology (BRON) and histology (BAAH or EBRON) orders.
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| **Process** |  |
|  | **Step** | **If** | **Then** |
|  | 1 | Paper order received.  | Order will be placed by laboratory in Sunquest

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| **If:** | **Then:** |
| Cell count only. No Histology | Order BRON and EBRON |
| Cell count with Histology request | Order BRON and BAAH |
| No cell count and no Histology | Order EBRON |
| No cell count with Histology request | Order BAAH |

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|  | 2 | Orders are placed electronically. | Receive in Sunquest OER using O14 at the DATE/DAYS/(E)VENTS: prompt

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| **If:** | **Then:** |
| No cell count is ordered or Histo | Order EBRON |
| Histology requestedCall for paper requisition if not received. Histology cannot process without requisition. | NO EBRON neededReceive or order BAAH |

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|  | 3 | No orders are able to be found or placed in a timely manner. | Specimen handled as irretrievable specimen without orders. Notify the operations supervisor or a charge tech. Refer to [GL 1.20 Laboratory Escalation Policy](https://starnet.childrenshc.org/References/labsop/gen/gen/gl-1.20-laboratory-escalation-policy.dot) and [GL 2.1 Irretrievable Specimens With No Orders](https://starnet.childrenshc.org/References/labsop/gen/gen/gl-2.1-irretrievable-specimens-with-no-orders.pdf) policy |
|  | 4. | Microbiology will process all micro and send out testing, ensuring there is enough sample for hematology and histology. One Micro is done with Micro and Send out tests, they will bring the specimen and give it to manual hematology techs. **NOTE: Please remember to write the Total Volume either on the cap, Cerner label, or the requisition form. Refer to** [HEM 2.4 BAL Counting WBCs in Bronchoalveolar Lavage](https://starnet.childrenshc.org/References/labsop/heme/bf/hem-2.4-bron-counting-wbc-s-in-bronchoalveolar-lavage.pdf) **Procedure.**  |
|  | 5. | Hematology will perform count if ordered and make slides to be delivered to Histology if needed. |

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| **If**: | **Then**: |
| BAAH is ordered(Histology slides to be stained) | Slides will be made in Hematology and delivered with requisition and dilutions |
| EBRON is ordered (NO Histology stained slides) | Slides will be made in Hematology and kept in designated box |

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|  | 6. | Sample will be held stored in designated fridge for 7 days. |
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| **Historical Record** | **Version** | **Written/Revised by:** | **Effective Date:** | **Summary of Revisions** |
| 1 | L. Ziebell | 05/01/2017 | Initial Version |
|  | 2 | Dawit Getachew | 06/24/2019 | Added a policy statement regarding recent changes. Minor revisions. |