|  |
| --- |
| **Processing a Bronchoalveolar Lavage**  |
| **Purpose** | This procedure provides instructions on processing Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL) specimens. |
| **Policy Statements** | * Upon receipt of a BAL in the lab, the specimen will go directly to Microbiology for processing.
* If more than one container (site) is obtained from the patient, call the provider to clarify if the specimens are supposed to be treated separately or pooled together.
* Micro will note and document the total volume of the specimen before processing.
* Micro will order and receive all BAL tests ordered by the provider.
	+ Consult with Sendouts staff if there are questions about test requests
 |
| **Process** |  |
|  | **Step** | **If** | **Then** |
|  | 1 | Paper order received.  | Order will be placed by laboratory techs in Sunquest.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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 |

 |
|  | 2 | Orders are placed electonically. | Receive specimens using function ORM. In ORM, enter 14 under Day(s) of activity.

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

 |
|  | 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.docx) 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 that there is enough specimen available for Hematology and Histology. Once Micro is done with Micro and Sendout test aliquoting, they will bring the specimen to a Manual Hematology tech. **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 necessary). |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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 |

 |
|  | 6. | Sample will be stored in designated fridge for 7 days. |
|  |  |
| **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. |
|  | 3 | Andrew Fangel | 08/09/2024 | Micro staff are responsible for ordering and receiving all test requests. Minor housekeeping performed.  |