

To All Medical Laboratory Users:

This edition of the Lab Med Update has the following articles:

- **Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL) by Flow Cytometry, Pg. 1**
- **Quantitative SARS CoV-2 Antibody Testing Now Available, Pg. 1-2**



MEDICAL LABORATORIES

Bronchoalveolar Lavage (BAL) by Flow Cytometry

Based on input from clinicians the ordering and reporting of BAL by flow cytometry will change on June 29th. The new orderable test in Epic is Flow Cytometry, Bronchoalveolar Lavage (Lab6433). The test has four reportable results:

- CD3 % Lymphs, BAL
- CD3+CD4 % Lymphs, BAL
- CD3+CD8 % Lymphs, BAL
- CD4:CD8 Ratio, BAL

There is no pathologist interpretation and there are no reference intervals. The specimen requirements remain the same and samples with a lymphocyte percent <10 will be canceled due to the paucity of cells for analysis. If BAL testing is requested for evaluation of leukemia / lymphoma please order Flow Cytometry Immunophenotyping (LAB2554) and select Bronchial Lavage as the specimen source. This test will provide a pathologist interpretation.

Quantitative SARS CoV-2 Antibody Testing Now Available

Providers can now order both a quantitative Spike Protein IgG Antibody and/or a Qualitative IgG Nucleocapsid IgG Antibody. This may be helpful to understand the presence of past infection or the response to vaccine especially in immunocompromised individuals though a correlate of protection has not yet been established. This will replace the non-quantitative IgG Spike Antibody which is currently orderable.

Spike protein IgG can be positive in the following situations:

- prior infection
- vaccination with Moderna, Pfizer, or Johnson & Johnson

IF YOU HAVE AN ARTICLE(S) YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE CONTACT:

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- received monoclonal spike IgG therapy
- convalescent plasma treatment

Nucleocapsid protein IgG can be positive in the following situations:

- prior infection
- convalescent plasma treatment

For questions please contact the Clinical Microbiology director on call at PIC 1221.