

# SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

## Bronchoalveolar Lavage for Lipid-Laden Macrophages (BAL)

### Indications

For detection of some special cellular elements (lipid-laden macrophages).

### Specimen Required

Bronchoscopically-obtained lavage (preferably at least 20 mL) of the distal airway and alveoli in the distribution of the suspected lesion.

### Supplies

- Standard bronchoscopy. 120 mL clean plastic specimen containers.

### Specimen Collection:

Using standard bronchoscopy BAL technique, lavage the lung distribution in question with normal saline (or other physiologic solution). Collect the lavage specimen in a clean specimen container.

Do not add fixative to the BAL. Lipid testing requires no fixative added.  
**SPECIMEN MUST BE RECEIVED FRESH.**

Note on the requisition that specimen is for lipid-laden macrophages / Oil Red O.

Label the container with the patient's full first and last name, second unique identifier, and "BAL". Submit the specimen, along with the completed cytology request, to the cytopathology laboratory.

If transport will be delayed, refrigerate the specimen.