

## **Lab Alert: Discontinuation of In-House CD4:CD8 Ratio Studies on Broncho-Alveolar Lavage (BAL) Specimens**

Date: November 15, 2022

Dear Regional Pathology Services Clients,

Due to low volume and limited clinical utility, the Flow Cytometry Laboratory will discontinue offering CD4:CD8 ratio studies on bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BAL) (test code: BALTB). This change will take effect on Monday, November 21, 2022.

A systematic review of research published on the usefulness of the CD4:CD8 ratio on BAL specimens for diagnosing sarcoidosis was completed. The performance appears underwhelming and there is no clear consensus on its utility. The diagnosis is better made through interventional radiology of a transbronchial biopsy.

- Yongchun Shen, Caishuang Pang, YanqiuWu, Diandian Li, Chun Wan, Zenglin Liao, Ting Yang, Lei Chen, FuqiangWen. Diagnostic Performance of Bronchoalveolar Lavage Fluid CD4/CD8 Ration for Sarcoidosis: A Meta-analysis. Ebiomedicine 8 (2016) 302-308.  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/27428439/>

Clients that choose to still order this test can place a special procedure sendout order through Regional Pathology Services.

- SPPRO (Special Procedure, other)-ARUP 0093420  
[Test Information](#)

If you have questions or concerns about this change please contact: Samuel J. Pirruccello, M.D. | pager 402-888-1640 | phone 402-559-7707

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