

## Karius Focus, Bronchoalveolar Lavage

**Test ID:** KBAL

### Useful for:

Detection of microbial cell-free DNA from over 500 bacteria, fungi, parasites, and DNA viruses known to cause lung infections in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid.

### Methods:

Metagenomic Sequencing

### Reference Values:

An interpretive report will be provided.

### Specimen Requirements:

**Container/Tube:** Sterile, leak-proof freezable container

**Specimen Volume:** 1.5 mL

#### Collection Instructions:

1. Collect bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF) specimen according to your institutional guidelines.
2. Within 12 hours of specimen collection, transfer at least 1.5 mL of BALF specimen to a sterile container and freeze.
3. See [Karius Focus: BAL Specimen Collection and Preparation Process](#) for complete instructions.

#### Additional Information:

1. Specimen cannot be shared with other tests.
2. Specimen trap collection containers (with suction catheters attached) will be rejected due to the high risk of leakage and contamination upon opening. Avoid use of these for BALF specimens.
3. If specimen transfer into an acceptable sterile container is necessary, perform specimen transfer in a biosafety cabinet. Place the container in a separate sealed plastic bag.

### Specimen Stability Information:

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
Bronchoalveolar Lavage	Frozen (preferred)	180 days

### Cautions:

The Karius Focus Test does not detect RNA viruses. The test has been validated only for bronchoalveolar lavage fluid specimens.

**CPT Code:**  
81479

**Day(s) Performed:** Monday through Saturday

**Report Available:** 3 to 5 days

**Note:**  
The following referral test code(s) will become obsolete.

Test Name	Test ID	Referral Lab Code	Referral Lab
Karius Focus   BAL	ZW300	MML1589	Karius Laboratory

**Questions**  
Contact James Conn, Laboratory Resource Coordinator at 800-533-1710.