

Thesis Title Cell Analysis of Bronchoalveolar Lavage Fluid
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ABSTRACT

Total BAL cell count and the differential BAL cell count were performed from BAL fluid of ninety patients from common pulmonary diseases in Thailand including cancerous cases; tuberculous cases; non-tuberculous cases and miscellaneous diseases cases. The combination in the ratio of macrophages to dusty and foamy macrophages below 1.25 and total BAL cell count lower than $0.85 \times 10^3 / \text{mm}^3$ could suggest a diagnostic indication of cancerous BAL rather than other diseases. Non-tuberculous BAL could be distinguished from other diseases by the higher percentage of neutrophils over 55% and lower percentage in every types of macrophages. Tuberculous BAL also revealed high percentage of macrophages, low level of dusty and foamy macrophages whereas high level in every types of macrophages was found in miscellaneous BAL.

However, the differential count of BAL cells were not themselves diagnosis because of overlap in these values in some cases among these disorders. This technique could be initially used as guideline for suggestive diagnosis in some suspicious cases particularly cancerous from tuberculous BAL.