Indication | Goal
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Inspection | Haemoptysis | Localise bleeding
Infection | Identify evidence of inflammation or infection
Aspiration | Look for foreign bodies
Mass | Look for endobronchial mass
Organ donation | Look at anatomy & evidence of lung injury
Inhalational injury | Find evidence of airway injury
Sample collection | Pulmonary infiltrates (infectious) | Obtain samples for gram stain, silver stain, bacterial cultures, viral and fungal studies
Pulmonary infiltrates (non-infectious) | Identify alveolar haemorrhage
Mass or admixture | Check for eosinophilia (analyse cell count and differentials)
Interventions | Haemoptysis | Control bleeding
Bronchial obstruction | Remove in situ foreign bodies
Perform laser removal or mucus clearance
Place stent
Alveolar proteinosis | Perform lavage
Intubation | Visualise anatomy for tube placement
Percutaneous tracheostomy | Visualise anatomy during procedure

(i) inability to maintain a patent airway during the procedure
(ii) inability to adequately oxygenate or ventilate during the procedure
(iii) active cardiac ischaemia
(iv) malignant arrhythmia
(v) severe haemodynamic instability

(i) poor patient co-operation
(ii) elevated ICP
(iii) severe coagulopathy
NB: patients with impending respiratory failure may undergo bronchoscopy more safely if the airway is secured