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## Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) *Candida auris* Health Advisory

### December 16, 2022

#### Situational Update

A patient with multi-drug resistant (MDR) *Candida auris* has been identified in Sacramento County and is not believed to be connected to other *C. auris* outbreaks outside the county. *C. auris* can cause serious infections, including in blood and wounds, with mortality rates as high as 60% for invasive infections. Patients and residents who have had prolonged admission in high-acuity long-term care facilities, including long-term acute care hospitals (LTACH) and ventilator-equipped skilled nursing facilities (vSNF) are at the highest risk for *C. auris* and other multi-drug resistant organism (MDRO) colonization and infection. Patients with long-term admission in high-acuity acute care hospitals (e.g., ICU and step-down units) may also be at an increased risk.

#### Active Surveillance

- Determine *C. auris* status for all patients and residents upon admission, which may include reviewing medical records and following up with the transferring facility.
- Conduct screening tests for individuals at highest risk for *C. auris* (patients transferred from LTACHs, vSNFs, or facilities with known outbreaks) whose status is unknown. Consider screening patients with other known risk factors, such as roommates of confirmed *C. auris* patients. Place on empiric Contact Precautions while awaiting results. Notify transferring facility and Sacramento County Public Health (SCPH) of *C. auris* positive patients.

#### Infection Prevention and Control

- Place patient/resident with *C. auris* in a single room, if possible, and initiate Contact Precautions. SNFs should initiate [Enhanced Standard Precautions](#). If a single room is not available, cohort patients/residents with *C. auris*.
- Perform hand hygiene before donning and after doffing personal protective equipment (PPE) and before and after patient contact.
- Do NOT reuse or extend use of gloves and gowns.
- Dedicate medical equipment and minimize health care staff caring for the patient.
- Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and shared medical equipment using Environmental Protection Agency registered hospital-grade [List P](#) disinfectants with claims against *C. auris*.
- Continue prevention and control measures throughout the duration of patient's/resident's admission as there is no clearance for *C. auris* colonization.

#### Antimicrobial Stewardship

- Implement antimicrobial stewardship to limit the use of broad-spectrum antibacterial and antifungal agents to limit the emergence of MDR *C. auris*.

#### Routine Surveillance

- For specimens from normally sterile sites, conduct species-level identification for all *Candida* isolates. For specimens from non-sterile sites, consider species-level identification for *Candida* isolates for patients at highest risk for *C. auris*.
- Do not re-screen patients previously identified with *C. auris*.
- Report MDR *C. auris* to SCPH.

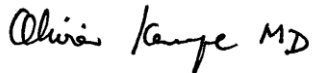
#### Communication between Healthcare Facilities

- Notify any receiving health care facility of patient's/resident's *C. auris* status prior to transfer using CDPH's [Interfacility Transfer Form](#). Also notify receiving health care facilities if there is an ongoing *C. auris* outbreak in the facility.

Resources:

1. *Candida auris* (*C. auris*) (CDPH):  
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCO/HAI/Pages/Candida-auris.aspx>
2. *Candida auris* Quicksheet (CDPH):  
[https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCO/HAI/CDPH%20Document%20Library/C%20auris%20Quicksheet Interim 070720 ADA.pdf](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCO/HAI/CDPH%20Document%20Library/C%20auris%20Quicksheet%20Interim%20070720%20ADA.pdf)
3. CDPH Interfacility Transfer Form:  
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCO/HAI/CDPH%20Document%20Library/Interfacility%20Transfer%20Form%20061417.pdf>
4. Multi-drug Resistant Organism (MDRO) Health Advisory 11/23/2022 (SCPH):  
<https://dhs.saccounty.gov/PUB/Documents/AZ-Health-Info/ME-MDROHealthAdvisory20221123.pdf>
5. *C. auris* Information for Patients and Families:  
[https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCO/HAI/Pages/Candida-auris\\_InfoForPatientsAndFamilies.aspx](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCO/HAI/Pages/Candida-auris_InfoForPatientsAndFamilies.aspx)

Sincerely,



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