Multidrug-Resistant Organism Travel Screening Guidance

As part of the Tennessee Department of Health’s Healthcare Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance Program’s (TDH HAI/AR) effort to contain multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs), we are recommending that Tennessee healthcare facilities screen high-risk patients on admission.

MDROs of particular concern are *Candida auris* and Carbapenemase-producing organisms (CPOs). CPOs can include Carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA), and *Acinetobacter baumannii* (CRAB).

**High-risk patients** include patients who:

⇒ Have had an **overnight stay** in a healthcare facility in **high-prevalence areas of the U.S.** in the previous 12 months

⇒ Have had an **overnight stay** in a healthcare facility **outside of the U.S.** (except Canada) in the previous 12 months

⇒ Are being admitted from a **high-risk facility**

**Candida auris**

**High prevalence areas of the U.S.** include New York City, New Jersey, Chicago, Miami-Dade and Broward counties in Florida, and Orange County in California. This is up-to-date as of August 7, 2019.

**Screen** patients who have had overnight stays in healthcare facilities in high prevalence areas of the U.S., outside of the U.S., and/or who are being admitted from a high-risk facility with a **bilateral axilla/groin swab**.

**Bilateral axilla/groin sampling** should be performed using a rayon tip or nylon-flocked swab.

For more **detailed guidance** on how to screen, please see the *Candida auris* Specimen Collection and Shipping Guidance from the AR Lab Network’s Southeast Regional Lab.

**CPOs**

**Screen** patients who have had an overnight stay in a healthcare facility outside of the U.S. (except Canada) and/or who are being admitted from a high-risk facility with a **rectal swab**.

**Rectal sampling** should be performed using a **Cepheid dual swab collection device**.

For more **detailed guidance** on how to screen, please see the Specimen Collection and Shipping Guidance from the AR Lab Network’s Southeast Regional Lab.