

# CANDIDA AURIS

*C. auris is a distinct Candida fungal species that is often multi-drug resistant and can cause serious infections. This fungus most commonly spreads in healthcare facilities.*

## A Guide for Healthcare Facilities:

1. Know who *Candida auris* commonly affects:
  - Patients who received healthcare in post-acute care facilities (e.g., nursing homes), especially those with ventilator units.
  - Patients who were recently hospitalized outside of the United States.
  - Patients infected or colonized with carbapenemase-producing bacteria.
2. Know where the growing number of cases are throughout the U.S.
3. Know it's easy to misidentify, therefore laboratory diagnosis is required.
  - Ensure the fungal identification method used by lab can identify *C. auris*.
    - If lab cannot identify, send suspected isolates to TN State Public Health Lab.
4. Report possible or confirmed cases of *C. auris* immediately to your public health department.
5. Place patients and nursing home/skilled nursing facility residents with *C. auris* infection or colonization on Transmission-Based Precautions (contact precautions or enhanced barrier precautions) per facility practice and in a single room (if possible).
6. Reinforce importance of hand hygiene.
7. Ensure gloves and gowns are accessible and used appropriately.
8. Coordinate with Environmental Services (EVS) to monitor and ensure patient environment is cleaned using a disinfectant from EPA's List P Products.

## Recommendations:

- Transfers with known positives can be accepted safely using either:
  - Contact Precautions
  - Enhanced Barrier Precautions
- Consider admissions screening from highest risk facilities (LTAC and vSNFs).
- Clearly communicate *C. auris* infection status to receiving healthcare provider/facility.

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
*C. auris* behaves more like a bacteria than a fungus.



For more information about *Candida auris*, please visit: CDC's *Candida auris* Resources or TDH's HAI/AR Program website.