Colonization Screening and Isolation Guidance for Multidrug-Resistant Organisms (MDROs) in Acute Care Settings

Organism	Contact Precautions Discontinuation Criteria	Comments	
Candida auris (C. auris)	 The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) currently recommends continuing contact precautions (CP) for the entire duration of the patient's stay in the facility.³ CDC does not recommend routine reassessments for <i>C. auris</i> colonization.³ Reassessment of colonization may be considered in consultation with the Florida Department of Health. Reassessment should not be performed for 3 months after last positive result for <i>C. auris.³</i> 	Evidence suggests that patients remain colonized for many months, perhaps indefinitely even after acute infection (if present) has been treated and resolved. ³	
Multidrug - Resistant Enterobacteriaceae (MDR-E) and Carbapenemase Producing Organisms (CPOs)	 At least 6 months have elapsed since last positive culture, and: Two (2) consecutive negative swab samples, at least one week apart.^{1*} No evidence of ongoing transmission or draining wounds that cannot be contained by dressings.² 	Maintain CP for duration of index hospital stay. ¹ Certain extensively drug-resistant <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> have no or limited treatment options, which makes the impact of even a single transmission event significant. ¹	
Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE)	 Three (3) consecutive negative cultures, at least one week apart.^{1*} No evidence of ongoing transmission or draining wounds that cannot be contained by dressings.² 	Hospitals should consider extending CP for patients who are highly immunosuppressed, receiving broad spectrum systemic antimicrobial therapy without VRE activity, receiving care in high-risk units (e.g., burn units, etc.), or receiving care at institutions with high rates of VRE infection. ¹	
Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)	 Three (3) consecutive negative screening cultures, at least one week apart.¹* No evidence of ongoing transmission or draining wounds that cannot be contained by dressings.² 	Evidence indicates that most patients will remain negative for MRSA colonization if they have 3 consecutive negative weekly surveillance cultures. ¹	
Clostridioides difficile (C. diff)	 At least 48 hours after care and resolution of diarrhea.¹* 	Hospitals should consider extending CP through the duration of hospitalization if they have elevated rates of <i>C. diff</i> in their facility. ¹	

*No indication of clinical infection that is currently producing symptoms and/or broad-spectrum antibiotic use that may select for this organism

¹Banach, D.B., et al. (2018). Duration of contact precautions for acute-care settings. www.shea-online.org/index.php/journal-news/website-highlights/560-shea-expert-guidance-duration-ofcontact-precautions-for-acute-care-settings

²Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2007). Type and Duration of Precautions Recommended for Selected Infections and Conditions. www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/ isolation/appendix/type-duration-precautions.html

3Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020). Infection and Prevention Control for Candida auris. www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris/c-auris-infection-control.html

If you have additional questions, please contact the Florida Department of Health Health Care-Associated Infection Prevention Program at: (e) HAI_Program@FLHealth.gov (p) 850-245-4401



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