

# Send *Candida* Isolates to Your Public Health Lab

Labs that take swift action to submit isolates to their public health lab can help detect *Candida* and stop its spread.

*Candida* is one of the most common causes of healthcare-associated bloodstream infections in the United States and antifungal resistance in *Candida* is increasing. There are new and emerging species, like *Candida auris* (*C. auris*), which can spread in healthcare settings and cause outbreaks.

## What to send?

- › All confirmed or suspected *Candida auris* isolates (any specimen source)
- › *Candida* species **other than** *C. albicans* from any specimen source, especially invasive sites
- › Yeast isolates from any specimen source when unable to identify species after identification was attempted

## With support from CDC's Antibiotic Resistance Lab Network, your regional lab can:



- › Identify species and detect organisms that are public health threats
- › Provide antifungal susceptibility data to track resistance
- › Help respond to outbreaks of *Candida*

Learn where to send isolates for your regional lab:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris/c-auris-surveillance.html>

## What makes *Candida auris* a public health threat?



### It's difficult to identify.

*C. auris* can be misidentified by commonly used yeast identification methods. Among others, it is often misidentified as *C. haemulonii*.



### It causes severe infections.

1 in 3 patients with invasive *C. auris* infections die.



### It's often drug-resistant.

Some *C. auris* infections are resistant to all 3 major antifungal classes of medicines.



### It's becoming common.

*C. auris* has been reported in more than 20 countries, including the United States.



### It can spread in healthcare settings.

*C. auris* can live on surfaces for weeks and spread between patients, causing outbreaks.

## CDC's AR Lab Network can also test:

- › Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales (CRE)
- › Colonization screening for carbapenem-resistant organisms and *C. auris*
- › Carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii*
- › *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- › Drug-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*
- › *Clostridioides difficile*
- › Other urgent and serious AR pathogens

For more information on CDC's AR Lab Network, visit:  
[www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance/laboratories.html](http://www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance/laboratories.html)



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