



Department of Health

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TTY: 711
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Date: November 28, 2022

To: Rhode Island Sentinel Microbiology Laboratories

Re: *Candida* species and CRE/CRPA testing

In 2019, the CDC classified *Candida auris* as an “urgent threat” in the Antibiotic Resistance Threats Report, as it can be difficult to identify, can cause severe infection, is often drug-resistant, and can spread in healthcare settings. Some strains of *C. auris* are resistant to all three major classes of antifungals, can colonize skin and other body sites, and persist in the healthcare environment for weeks. As a result, the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists has recommended that the identification of *C. auris* be routinely notifiable.

Candida auris is a reportable finding under the Rhode Island Code of Regulations Title 216. The Rhode Island State Health Laboratories (RISHL) Special Pathogens and Biothreats Laboratory has validated the identification of *Candida* species by Bruker MALDI-TOF and beginning December 1, 2022, will begin required submission of the following isolates as part of the Centers for Disease Control’s Drug Resistance Network.

What to submit to RISHL:

- ALL CONFIRMED OR SUSPECTED *CANDIDA AURIS* ISOLATES FROM ANY SPECIMEN SOURCE
- ANTIFUNGAL RESISTANT *CANDIDA* SPECIES **OTHER THAN *C. ALBICANS***, FROM ANY SPECIMEN SOURCE, ESPECIALLY INVASIVE SITES
- YEAST ISOLATES FROM ANY SPECIMEN SOURCE AFTER AN ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY WAS UNSUCCESSFUL

Please submit pure isolates on either a Sabouraud or non-selective agar plate or slant. All plates for submission must be sealed.

Please continue to submit all isolates for CRE/CRPA/CRAB testing that meet the current guideline criteria.



State of Rhode Island

CRE: Enterobacterales members such as *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella* species, *Enterobacter* species; also, *Providencia* species, *Proteus* species, *Morganella* species, *Citrobacter* species, and *Serratia* species isolates with MIC ≥ 4 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ for doripenem, imipenem or meropenem, or ≥ 2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ for ertapenem

CRPA: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (non-mucoid) isolates with MIC ≥ 8 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ for doripenem, imipenem or meropenem; or ≤ 15 mm zone size

CRAB: *Acinetobacter baumannii* isolates with MIC ≥ 8 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ for doripenem, imipenem or meropenem

Thank you for your continued commitment to the antimicrobial resistance surveillance efforts.

Regards,

Toby W. Bennett

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