

Send *Candida* Isolates to MT Public Health Lab



What to Send

- All confirmed or suspected *Candida auris* (*C. 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

Labs that take swift action to submit isolates to the Montana 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 drug resistance in *Candida* is increasing. There are new and emerging species, like *Candida auris*, which can spread in healthcare settings and cause outbreaks.

With support from CDC's Antibiotic Resistance Lab Networks, MTPHL can help:

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

MTPHL and AR Lab Network can also test:

- Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)
- Carbapenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA)
- Emerging threats, like *mcr* (plasmid-mediated colistin resistance)
- Other urgent and serious AR pathogens
- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- Drug-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*
- *Clostridium difficile*

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 an invasive *C. auris* infection dies.



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.

Find the latest CDC *C. auris* guidance:
www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris



About CDC's AR Lab Network

The AR Lab Network can rapidly detect antibiotic resistance in healthcare, food, and the community, and inform local responses to prevent spread and protect people. The AR Lab Network supports lab capacity in 56 state and local labs, including 7 regional labs and the National TB Center. The regional labs provide core testing, including *Candida* testing and CRE colonization testing, for states in their region. Some perform additional screening for *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, and *Clostridium difficile*.