

## Updated Information for Submission of Resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Isolates for Metallo- $\beta$ -Lactamase Testing

### Target audience: Clinical laboratories

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

### Background:

As published in the March 2014 NHSN newsletter, CDC has become aware of two *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* isolates which tested resistant to carbapenams but susceptible to aztreonam. The isolates were further identified to possess the gene for the Verona Integron-Encoded Metallo- $\beta$ -lactamase (VIM). The susceptibility pattern expressed by the isolates is typical of bacteria expressing the VIM gene.

Clinical laboratories can send *Pseudomonas* isolates which are intermediate or resistant to a carbapenam AND susceptible to aztreonam for metallo-beta-lactamase testing to MDCH for forwarding to CDC.

CDC will not perform routine testing for carbapenemases on *Pseudomonas* isolates that do not meet the above definition.

*Please refer to the updated submission actions below to ensure your isolates reach the correct lab at CDC.*

### Details:

#### Steps for laboratories to take now:

Please send *Pseudomonas* isolates that meet the above criteria to the MDCH laboratory and include a completed MDCH requisition form and a CDC specimen submission form (CDC 50.34 Rev. 11-90 (Formerly 3.203)). Please note: The forms are each two-pages. Both sides must be completed.

The current MDCH Microbiology/Virology test requisition and CDC specimen submission form are available at:

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/DCH-0583TEST\\_REQUEST\\_7587\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/DCH-0583TEST_REQUEST_7587_7.pdf)

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/HUMAN\\_form-50-34\\_410210\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/HUMAN_form-50-34_410210_7.pdf)

**Update:** CDC DASH forms must be filled out electronically (not handwritten). Select test CDC-10223 "Antimicrobial Resistance Testing- Bacterial". In the "Previous Laboratory Results/Comments" box on the second page (near the bottom), free text "suspect VIM". Also attach a printed copy of the antibiotic resistance profile from your facility.

## Questions and Additional Information

For laboratory related questions, please contact

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