

Candida auris Screening Testing & Other Laboratory Resources



Candida auris Laboratory Fact Sheet:

An overarching laboratory fact sheet is available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Candida auris: A drug-resistant fungus that spreads in healthcare facilities - A CDC message to laboratory staff](#).

Screening Testing:

The CDC website provides molecular and culture-based options for *C. auris* screening methodologies. [Identification of Candida auris | Candida auris | Fungal Diseases | CDC](#). Acceptable specimen types for screening are axilla/groin swabs. Recommended procedure for collection can be found on the CDC website [Procedure for Collection of Patient Swabs for Candida auris | Fungal | CDC](#).

An important note: screening by molecular methods provides a rapid sample-to-answer mechanism but may fail to provide more detailed information without a follow-up enrichment culture isolation method that would allow further susceptibility testing and whole genome sequencing. This may reduce the ability to fully characterize findings and may have limited utility in certain circumstances. When possible, perform a culture on PCR positive samples to obtain a fungal isolate for submission to Michigan Bureau of Laboratories (BOL).

Culture Identification:

Automated identification platforms routinely mis-identify *C. auris*. The preferred method for identification is matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time of flight (MALDI-TOF). A list of common mis-identifications per platform along with recommended testing algorithms can be found on the CDC website [Identification of Candida auris | Candida auris | Fungal Diseases | CDC](#).

The Michigan BOL is validated for isolate identification of *C. auris*. Any identified or suspected *C. auris* are required to be submitted to BOL. More information can be found on BOL website [A-Z Test Listing \(michigan.gov\)](#) and [submission guidelines](#).

Antifungal Susceptibility Testing:

Currently no established breakpoint interpretation criterion exists for *C. auris* susceptibility testing. CDC does offer interpretation guidelines based upon susceptibility data of other *Candida* species [Antifungal Susceptibility Testing and Interpretation | Candida auris | Fungal Diseases | CDC](#).

BOL does not perform susceptibility testing. Susceptibility testing is available through the Antimicrobial Resistance Laboratory Network [What CDC is Doing: Lab Capacity | CDC](#).

Resources for Method Validation and Laboratory Safety:

The CDC has provided additional information on PCR <https://www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris/pdf/Real-time-PCR-based-Id-C-auris-508.pdf> and culture methods <https://www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris/c-auris-guidance.html>.

Reference isolates for validations are available from American Type Culture Collection <https://www.atcc.org/> and AR Isolate Bank [Overview](#) | [Antimicrobial Resistance Isolate Bank](#) | [Antibiotic/Antimicrobial Resistance](#) | CDC.

Laboratory safety resources are available through CDC [Safety Considerations When Working with Known or Suspected Isolates of Candida auris](#) | [Candida auris](#) | [Fungal Diseases](#) | CDC.

Additional Laboratories Offering *Candida auris* Testing Services:

Laboratory Name	Methodology	Test Order Information (order code)	Contact Information
ARUP	Culture [^]	Yeast/Fungal Culture (0060149)	www.aruplab.com 1-800-522-2787
		Yeast ID (0060163)	
LabCorp	Culture	Yeast/Fungal Culture (182776)	www.labcorp.com
		Yeast ID (182212)	
Mayo	PCR	Candida auris surveillance (CAURS 607883)	www.mayocliniclabs.com mcl@mayo.edu 1-800-533-1710
	Culture	Yeast ID (FUNID 8223)	
Quest	PCR	PCR (10153)	www.questdiagnostics.com 1-866-697-8378
	Culture	Yeast/Fungal Culture (20541)	
		Yeast ID (39507)	

[^] For suspected *C. auris* cases, lab requests must include specimen source and a note indicating *C. auris* rule-out

Disclaimer: The provided list is not all inclusive and additional laboratories may be available. The list above is provided for educational purposes and does not reflect preferences or recommendations of State Public Health Department. The State Public Health Department does not assume liability or responsibility for any representations made by a laboratory regarding capabilities.

Public Health Reporting:

C. auris is a reportable communicable disease condition in Michigan. For additional information on reporting requirements, consult the [Health Care Professional's Guide to Disease Reporting in Michigan \(Brick Book\)](#) and the [Candida auris Case Reporting and Investigation Guidance](#).