Candida auris and Patient/Resident Management

Surveillance for Healthcare-associated and Resistant Pathogens Unit (SHARP)

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)

Candida auris

What it is?

Who is at risk?

How does it spread?

What's happening in Michigan?

What is Candida auris?

A fungal yeast organism

• Often colonizes the skin and other body sites, but can cause invasive infections

 Can be resistant to antifungal medications, sometimes multidrug-resistant



Can spread in health care settings

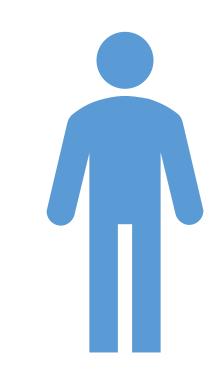
Who is at Risk for Candida auris?



Mechanical ventilation Tracheostomy



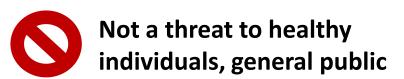
Indwelling medical devices and non-healing wounds







Antibiotics and antifungals



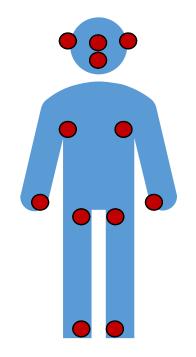


Multiple or prolonged health care facility stays

Candida auris Colonization



Colonization means that a patient/resident is carrying *C. auris* in or on them but does not have any signs or symptoms of an infection



For some patients/residents, colonization can lead to an active infection

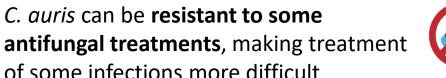


 ~5-10% develop an invasive infection like a bloodstream infection



C. auris colonization sites can include:

- Nares
- Oral
- External ear
- Axilla
- Groin/inguinal fold
- Hands
- Toe web







Patients/residents with *C. auris* colonization can **remain colonized for long periods of time**, many month to years, and perhaps indefinitely

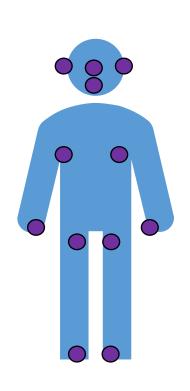
Candida auris Colonization

C. auris can be shed from colonized patients/residents to:

Health care personnel hands and clothing













High-touch health care surfaces

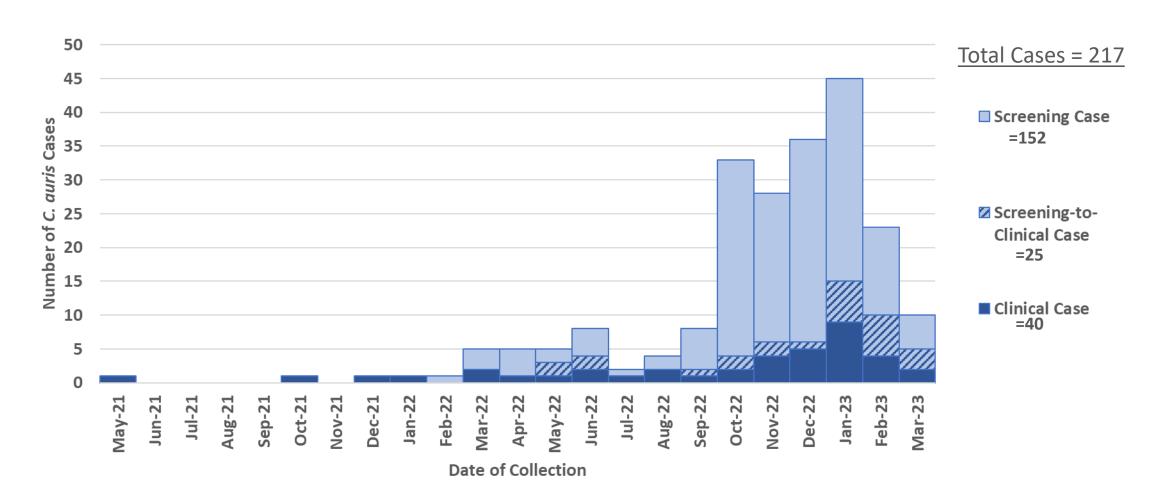


Shared medical equipment

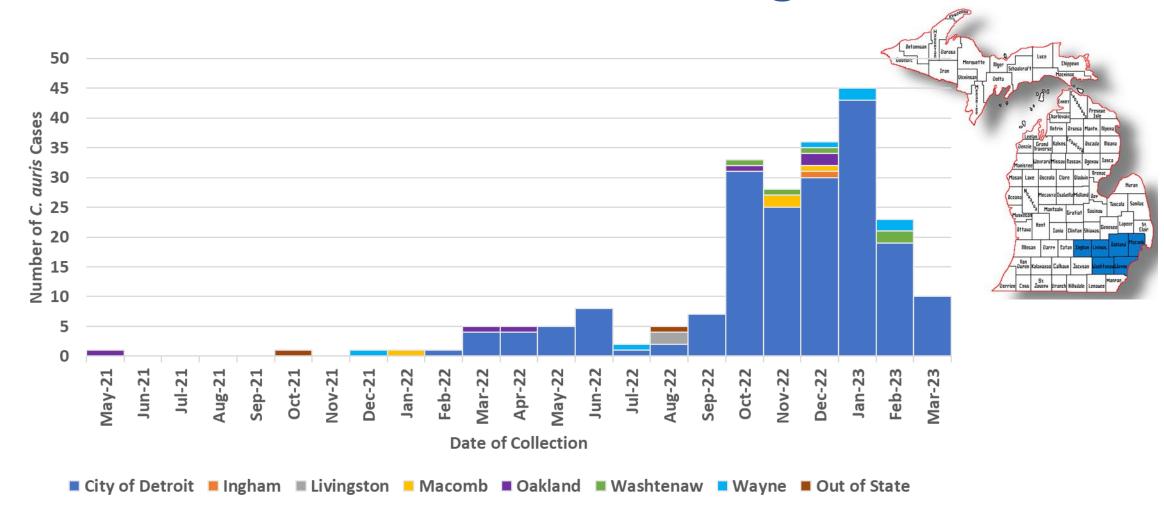


C. auris can persist in the health care environment for weeks

Candida auris in Michigan



Candida auris in Michigan



C. auris-positive Patient/Resident Management

Communication at Transfer
Infection Prevention Precautions
Hand Hygiene & PPE
Cleaning and Disinfection

Patient/Resident Transfers

- As with any MDRO, decisions to transfer a patient/resident from one level of care to another should be based on:
 - Clinical criteria
 - Ability of the accepting facility to provide the appropriate level of care
 - Not on the presence or absence of *C. auris* infection or colonization

All facilities need to be prepared to implement setting-appropriate precautions

Communication of *C. auris* Status

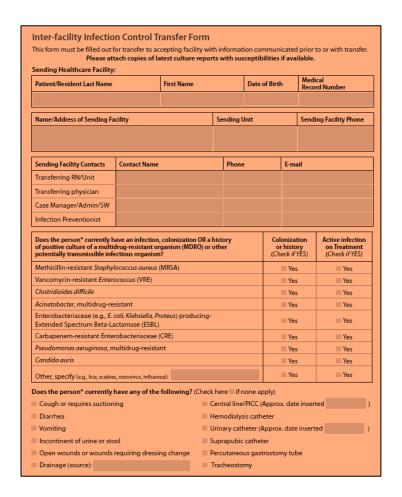
When ACCEPTING patients/residents:

- Ask about their C. auris/MDRO status
 - If positive,
 - obtain a copy of the lab report or supporting medical records
- Confirm the type of precautions needed
- Ensure all HCP are informed of their
 C. auris/MDRO status
 - Maintain an up-to-date list of residents meeting criteria for precautions



Communication of C. auris Status

- When DISCHARGING patients/residents:
 - Clearly state the status of C. auris and all MDROs
 - Current or recent infection
 - Colonization
 - Pending status (laboratory results pending or testing is needed)
 - Specify the type of precautions indicated
 - Tell HCP at the receiving facility
 - BOTH verbal and written communication
 - Utilize a Inter-facility Transfer Form



Infection Prevention Precautions for C. auris

Contact Precautions





Long-term Acute Care Hospitals



Enhanced Barrier Precautions





- Known MDRO
- Indwelling device or wound
- Used for resident's entire length of stay

Contact Precautions

OR



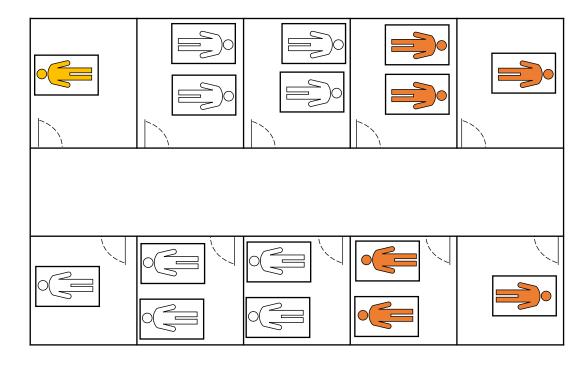
- Acute diarrhea
- Uncontained draining wounds, secretions or excretions
- Other infections (Appendix A)
- Limited to infectious period

CDC Infection Prevention for *C. auris*

Resident Placement

Contact Precautions

Single-resident room whenever possible



Enhanced Barrier Precautions

- Single-resident rooms are not required
- For facilities with capacity, singleresident rooms may be preferred
- *C. auris*-positive residents may be cohorted in the same room
- Facilities can consider a designated unit or part of unit for cohorting

Set-up for Success



Precautions Signage

- Visible
- Clear and informative
- Durable



Alcohol-based Hand Sanitizer

 Available and accessible for all health care personnel











PPE Cart or Caddy

- Placement just outside resident room
- Restocking PPE supply

Dedicated Equipment

- When possible
- Wipe placement for shared equipment

Hand Hygiene

- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer (ABHS) is effective against *C. auris* and is the preferred method to clean hands in most clinical situations
- Consider ABHS placement for availability and accessibility
- Use soap and water per routine indications



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Type of Precaution	PPE	When	What Care	
ENHANCED BARRIER PRECAUTIONS EVERYONE MUST: Clean their hands, including before entering and when leaving the room. PROVIDERS AND STAFF MUST ALSO: Wear gloves and a gown for the following High-contact Resident Care Activities. Wear gloves and a gown for the following High-contact Resident Care Activities. Transferring Care in the Care of the Care		Before high-contact resident care	 Dressing Bathing/showering Transferring Providing hygiene Changing linens Changing briefs or assisting with toileting Indwelling device care or use Wound care 	
Contact PRECAUTIONS EVERYONE MUST: Clean their hands, including before entering and when leaving the room. PROVIDERS AND STAFF MUST ALSO: Put on gloves before room entry. Discard gloves before room entry. Discard gown before room entry. Do not wear the same gown and gloves for the care of more than one person. Use dedicated or disposable equipment, dean and disinfect resusable equipment before use on another person.		Before any room entry	• Any care	

Cleaning and Disinfection for *C. auris*

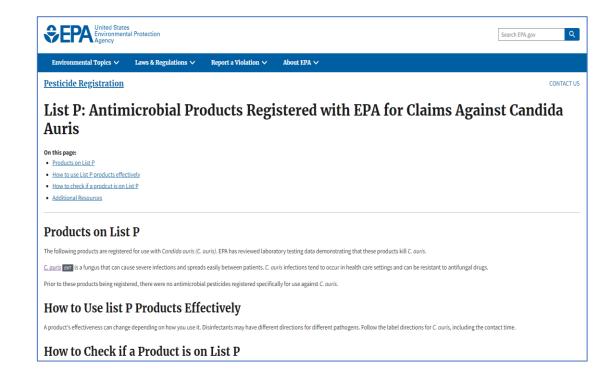
- *C. auris* contaminates and persists in the health care environment
- Mobile or reusable equipment is likely an important source of C. auris spread

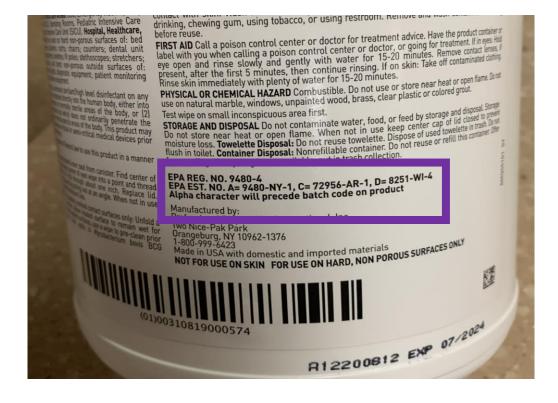


- Not all disinfectants are equally effective against C. auris
- Use EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectant products effective against
 C. auris = EPA List P
- Strongly consider using an EPA List P disinfectant routinely for all resident care areas if *C. auris* is in your area, even if not yet identified in your facility

EPA List P: Disinfectant Products Effective Against Candida auris

https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-p-antimicrobial-products-registeredepa-claims-against-candida-auris



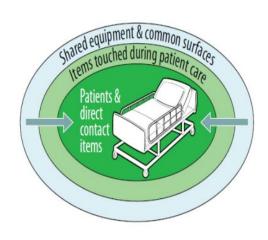


Safe and Effective **Disinfectant Use**

- Use an **EPA-approved hospital**grade disinfectant (List P preferred)
- Read the directions
 - What types of surfaces?
 - What precautions are needed?
- Pre-clean if surfaces are soiled or directions require
- Follow the contact time
 - time a disinfectant must remain wet on a surface to be effective



Create a Cleaning & Disinfection Plan



Cleaning and disinfection workflow:

- Clean-to-dirty
- Outside-in
- High-to-low
- C. auris rooms last



High-touch surfaces



Mobile and Shared Equipment



Frequency

Who Cleans What?

- Sometimes HCP don't know what they should be cleaning
- Make a list of all high-touch surfaces and equipment
- For each item indicate:
 - Frequency
 - Products to use (if different than routine)
 - Assignment to different HCP roles
- Share with all HCP with cleaning duties
 - Include both new and veteran HCP

Who Cleans What and When?									
Template for healthcare facilities to ensure that all surfaces, devices, and equipment are properly cleaned at the right times by the right staff. Please modify this template as needed. Below are just some examples of various surfaces that should be covered!									
Facility name:	Unit:		Update date: _	Approved by:					
Area/Device/Equipment	EVS	Frequency	Nursing	Frequency	Other (Specify)	Frequency			
Anesthesia equipment and			Ŭ			• •			
controls									
Bathroom sink									
Bed rail/controls									
Bed table									
Bedside cabinet & other furniture									
Bladder scanner									
Blood pressure cuffs,									
sphygmomanometer									
Call box, button, and cords									
Computer keyboard									
Computer monitor, keyboard,									
mouse, cart									
Corridor railing									
Dispensers for towels, soap,									
sanitizer, etc.									
Door knob/handle, push plates									
(in/out of room)									
Feeding pumps, stands									
Glove box holders									
Infusion pumps and control									
ISO holder									
IV poles									
Light switch									

Observation and Feedback for IPC Practices

• Ongoing monitoring:

- Hand hygiene
- Putting on/taking off PPE
- Cleaning and disinfection effectiveness

Collect data, track and display over time

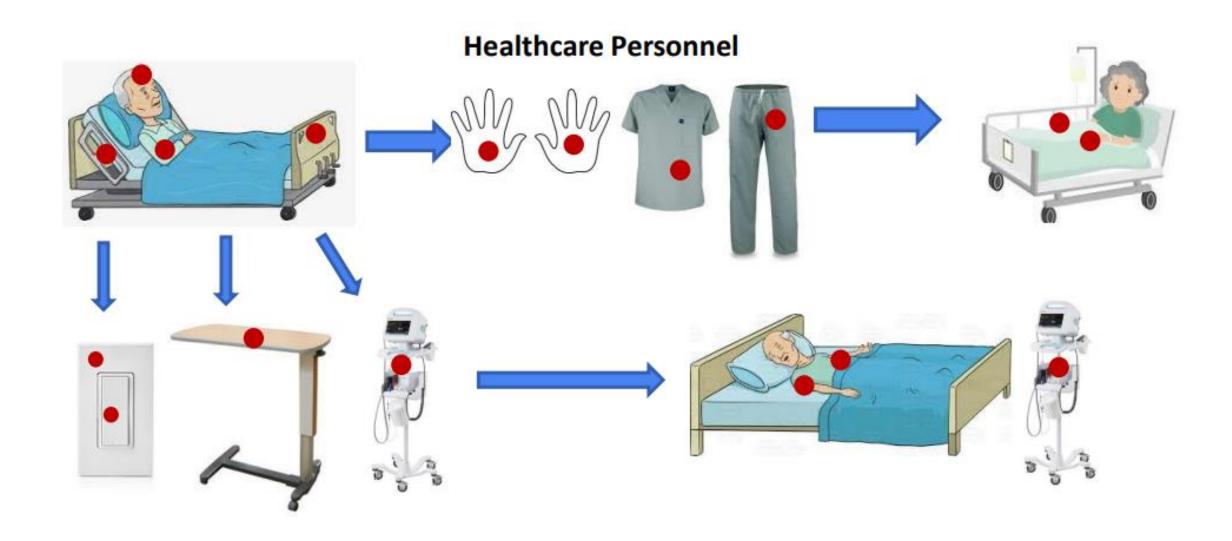
- What's working well?
- When and where are missed opportunities?

Routinely share the data with all HCP

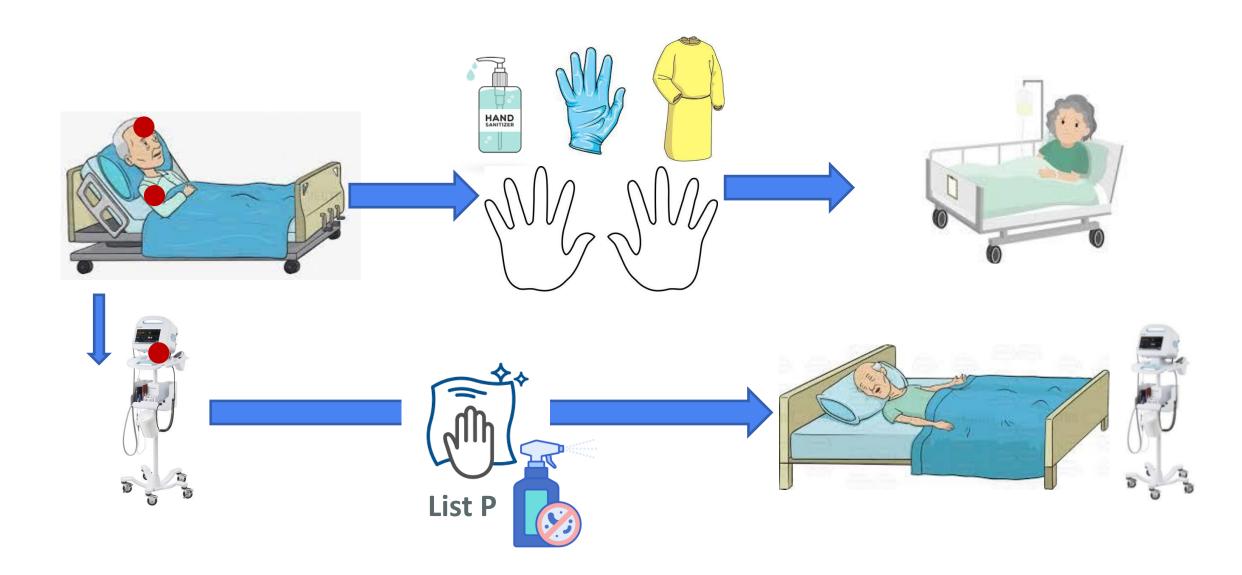
- Celebrate successes
- Identify barriers and solutions



C. auris Colonized Residents and Transmission



C. auris Colonized Residents and Transmission



Questions about *C. auris*? Contact the SHARP Unit

MDHHS-SHARP@michigan.gov

Michigan.gov/HAI

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