
Multidrug-resistant *Candida auris*

What is it?

- *Candida auris* (*C. auris*) is a fungus that causes serious infections that can affect the blood, heart, or brain.
- Infections with *C. auris* are still rare in Canada and in the USA; however, it is becoming more common, causing infections in more than a dozen countries.
- Symptoms: fever and chills that don't improve after antibiotic treatment for a suspected bacterial infection.
- Risk Factors: Most who get serious *C. auris* infections are already sick from other medical conditions. Some have been hospitalized outside of Canada.

How is it spread?

- *C. auris* can be spread through contact with affected patients, contaminated surfaces or equipment
- It can survive on surfaces for several weeks

Is there treatment for it?

- Antifungal medicines commonly used to treat *Candida* infections often don't work for *C. auris*
- Lab tests determine which antifungal medication to use

What can be done to prevent the spread of it?

- The best way to prevent the spread is to clean your hands with either soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub.
- Healthcare workers must wear gown and gloves when in contact with the patient or the patient environment.

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- The patient will be in a private room with a sign indicating 'Contact Precautions'
- The patient's room will be cleaned twice daily with a sporicidal cleaning product

What should a person do if a family member has a *C. auris* infection?

- Clean your hands with alcohol based hand rub or soap and water before and after touching the person or their equipment/belongings

Adherence to Infection Prevention and Control measures by staff and visitors is required to prevent further spread.

**Stop the spread of germs and infection.
Clean your hands.**



This fact sheet provides basic general information only and is to be used as a quick guide, not as a complete resource on the subject. If you have any further questions, ask Infection Prevention & Control or your health care provider.