



Candida Auris: Tips for Skilled Nursing Facilities



What Is *Candida Auris*?

Candida auris (*C. auris*) is a drug-resistant yeast increasingly found in Arkansas and throughout the United States. Good compliance with basic infection control measures can prevent the spread of *C. auris*. **All skilled nursing facilities should become familiar with the strategies outlined below to admit and manage *C. auris*-positive residents.**

Best Practices for *C. auris* Control

DO:

- ✓ **Admit** residents with suspected or confirmed *C. auris*—no specialized housing is required.
- ✓ **Follow CDC Enhanced Barrier Precautions (EBP)** to determine the appropriate **transmission-based precautions (TBP)**:
 - **Use Contact Precautions (CP)** during a *C. auris* outbreak or if the resident requires CP for other reasons.
 - **Use EBP** for all other *C. auris* residents.
- ✓ **Ensure staff follow strict infection control measures** to prevent the spread of *C. auris*. Facility leadership should conduct regular audits to reinforce compliance:
 - **Practice proper hand hygiene**—alcohol-based hand rub is effective.
 - **Use personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly** and consistently.
 - **Thoroughly clean and disinfect** patient areas and shared equipment **using effective disinfectants** against *C. auris* ([EPA List P](#) or [EPA List K](#), following *C. difficile* instructions).
- ✓ **Communicate** a resident's *C. auris* status at discharge—use the **inter-facility transfer form** and attach relevant lab results.
- ✓ **Flag medical records** for *C. auris*-positive residents to ensure they are placed on the correct TBP upon future admissions.
- ✓ **Report new cases** (colonization or clinical infection) using the [Communicable Disease Reporting Form](#) via fax:
 - **Communicable Disease Fax: 1-501-661-2428**
 - **HAI Fax: 501-614-5425**

DO NOT:

- ✗ **Panic** - *C. auris* is managed like other multidrug-resistant organisms. If your staff follows infection control best practices, you can significantly reduce the risk of spread.
- ✗ **Test for clearance** in residents with a history of *C. auris*.
 - *C. auris* can persist in the body for years and may yield intermittent negative test results.
 - Residents should still be **considered positive** even if they have recently tested negative.