

Candida auris (*C. auris*)

Also known as, *Candidozyma auris*



What Healthcare Staff Need To Know

WHAT is *C. auris*?

- *C. auris* is a fungus that spreads easily in hospitals and nursing homes.

WHY are experts concerned? **WHY** should we be concerned?

- *C. auris* can be difficult to treat because it is often resistant to antifungal medications.
- It can be spread easily from person-to-person, or from contaminated surfaces and shared medical equipment. It can live on surfaces for weeks.
- Many people who test positive for *C. auris* do not have any signs or symptoms, this is called colonization.
- *C. auris* infections are often difficult to treat and can lead to death in very sick patients.

WHO is at the greatest risk of getting *C. auris*?

- People in healthcare facilities who have unhealed wounds or tubes that go into their body (e.g., feeding tubes, breathing tubes, and central venous catheters).
- People with weakened immune systems.
- Other risk factors include having a complex medical history, recent surgery, or disrupted skin integrity.
- In general, healthy people are not at risk for *C. auris* colonization or infection.

HOW can I protect our patients from *C. auris*?

- Use contact precautions (i.e., hand hygiene, gown, and gloves) when caring for a person with known or suspected *C. auris*.
- Thoroughly disinfect surfaces and medical equipment.
- Clean and disinfect the patient's room.
- If in a skilled nursing facility, Enhanced Barrier Precautions may be appropriate.

WHERE can I get more information?

- www.sdhai.org