

Welcome

BEFORE WE BEGIN, ANSWER IN THE CHAT What is your spirit animal and why?

INSTRUCTION FOR CONTACT HOUR

- Your display name MUST match your evaluation name for CEU credit. If it does not, type your name and facility in the chat.
- Enjoy the entire program.
- Complete the post-evaluation by **July 25, 2025, 5:00 PM** (available on the last slide)
- Certificate will be emailed to you by August 15, 2025.









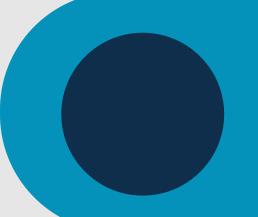






San Diego Skilled Nursing Facility Infection Prevention Collaborative

Grow - Collaborate - Succeed



Coordinated by the County of San Diego Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program

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Reminders







Recording is on!



PHS.HAI.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov



Keep your lines muted



Participate in the polls and chat

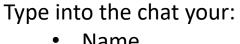
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Use the chat box for questions



Slides will be emailed



- Name
- Title
- Facility





Land Acknowledgement





nfections



Public Health Services would like to begin by acknowledging the Indigenous Peoples of all the lands that we are on today. While we are meeting on a virtual platform, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the importance of the lands, which we each call home. We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Kumeyaay. We offer our gratitude to the First Nations for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we honor those teachings. **Associated**

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Agenda





Welcome

General Updates

Announcements

Featured Topic: "Bridging Microbiology and Prevention"

Next Collaborative













To: CAHAN San Diego Participants

Date: July 3, 2025

From: Public Health Services

Health Advisory: Increased Invasive Meningococcal Disease (IMD), San Diego County

Key Messages

- As of June 30, 2025, there have been seven cases of Invasive Meningococcal Disease (IMD) among San Diego County residents. Between 2022-2024, the average number of IMD cases had been 3.7 cases per year.
- Providers are reminded that ciprofloxacin is no longer recommended for <u>post-exposure prophylaxis</u> (PEP) for close contacts of patients with IMD due to rising ciprofloxacin-resistant *Neisseria meningitidis* strains in the <u>California</u>.
- Providers are encouraged to request antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST), including for ciprofloxacin, on all sterile-site isolates from IMD patients.
- Providers should report confirmed and suspect meningococcal infections immediately to the San Diego County Epidemiology Unit.
- Vaccination is recommended for all adolescents and other age groups at increased risk for infection.
- All men who have sex with men (MSM), regardless of HIV status, should receive at least one dose of meningococcal conjugate (MenACWY) vaccine. A booster dose should be considered for MSM who received MenACWY vaccine ≥ 5 years ago.









To: CAHAN San Diego Participants

Date: July 7, 2025

From: Public Health Services

Health Advisory: Increased West Nile Virus detection in mosquitos, San Diego County

Key Messages

- West Nile Virus (WNV) has been detected in mosquitos in the Rolando area of San Diego County. WNV activity is elevated overall in California.
- As of June 30, no human cases have been detected in the County in 2025.
- WNV should be suspected in patients presenting with acute neurologic illness (e.g. aseptic meningitis, encephalitis, acute flaccid paralysis) and/or prolonged febrile illness.
- The preferred diagnostic test is WNV IgM serum antibodies and/or cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) IgM when a lumbar puncture is performed. Testing is widely available at commercial laboratories.
- Report all cases of encephalitis and meningitis to the San Diego County Epidemiology Unit, including those pending definitive diagnosis.



Respiratory Virus Update

July 10, 2025





San Diego County

Respiratory Virus Surveillance Report

Prepared by Epidemiology and Immunization Services Branch www.sdepi.org

This report will be issued monthly on the second Thursday of the month.

Weekly reporting will resume in October.

COVID-19

Cases

336

Deaths

U

Outbreaks*

6/29/2025 - 7/5/2025

Influenza

Cases

58

Deaths

0

Outbreaks*

0

6/29/2025 - 7/5/2025

RSV

Cases

5

Deaths

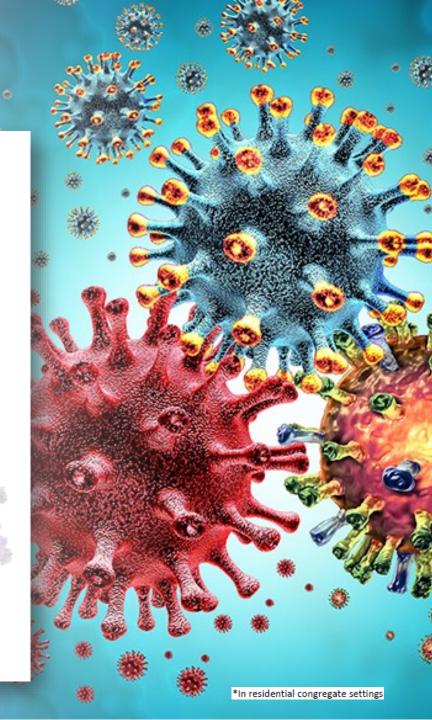
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Outbreaks*

0

6/29/2025 - 7/5/2025

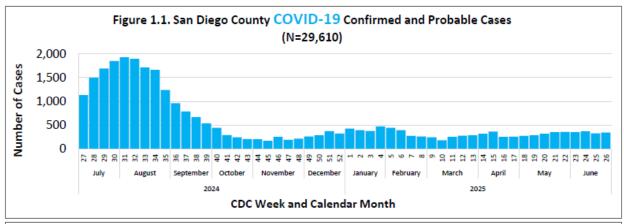
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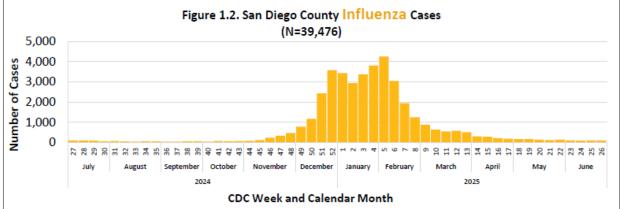


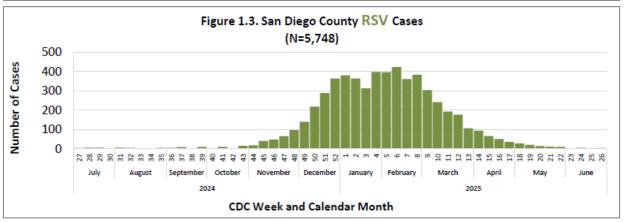
Respiratory Virus Update

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COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV Cases by CDC Episode Week,* 2024-25 Fiscal Year







^{*}Episode date is the earliest available of symptom onset date, specimen collection date, date of death, date reported. Data for the most recent week may be incomplete.

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County/CDPH Briefings





- County LTC Sector Bi-Monthly Telebriefing:
 - Bi-monthly 4th Thursday @ 2PM-3PM
 - Next briefing is on 7/24/25





Contact Hour Instructions

Ensure

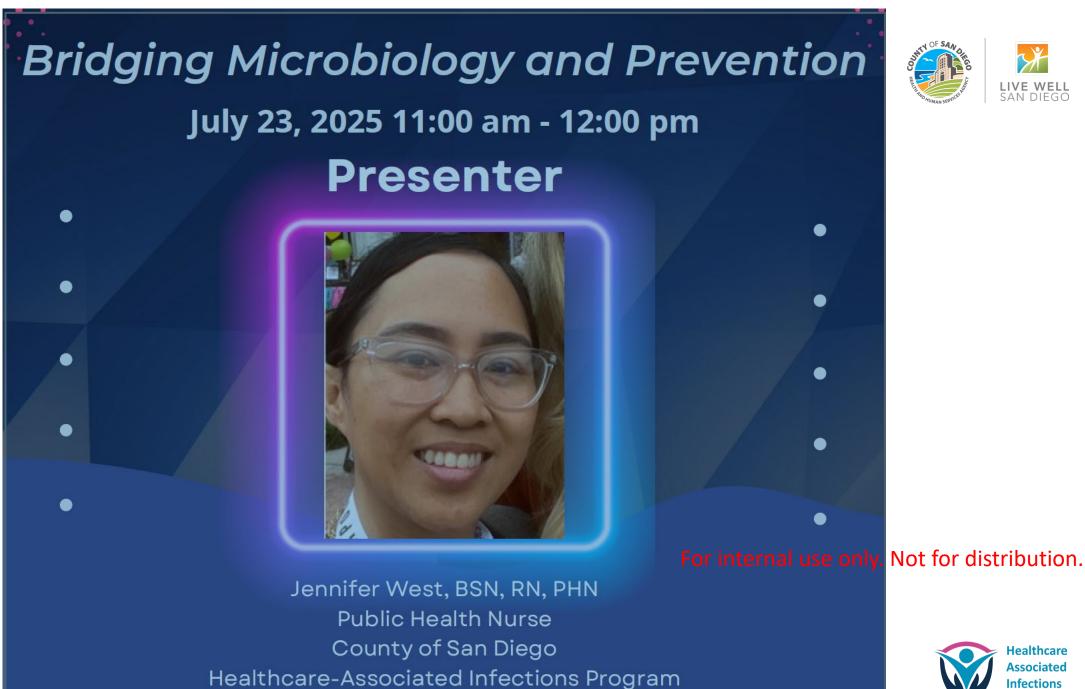
Ensure your full name identifies you on Teams

Enjoy

Enjoy the full presentation

Complete

Complete the post-evaluation









Bridging Microbiology & Infection Prevention

Jennifer West, BSN, RN, PHN Public Health Nurse County of San Diego HAI Program





phs.hai.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov







Objectives

The learner will be able to...

- ✓ Describe the role of the clinical microbiology in infection prevention
- ✓ Describe laboratory tests for infectious pathogens commonly seen in skilled nursing facilities
- ✓ Identify three concerning organisms commonly diagnosed in skilled nursing facilities



Background

- Microbiology is the study of microorganisms including bacteria, fungi, viruses.
- Pathogens are infectious organisms that cause disease.

 Microbiology helps the IP to develop and implement infection control measures.



Microbiology & Infection Prevention

Microbiology has two important functions:

1. Clinical:

- Identify pathogens and their susceptibility to treatment
- Ex. antibiotics for an infected wound



2. Epidemiological:

- Identify pathogens causing disease or outbreak in a population
- Ex. number of resistant organisms in a facility



Importance of Microbiology Laboratory Results



ENHANCED BARRIER PRECAUTIONS

When providing high contact care or cleaning in the environment, staff must:



MEJOREMOS LAS PRECAUCIONES DE BARRERA

Al prestar cuidados de alto contacto directo o limpiar el entorno, el personal debe:

Clean Hands



Limpiarse las Manos

Wear Gown



Usar Bata



Wear Gloves



Examples of high contact care Ejemplos de atención de alto contacto.



Providing Hygiene.

Higiene.

Bathing/Showering. Baño/Ducha.



Changing Linen. Cambio de sábanas.



Dressing. Ayuda para vestirse.

Assisting with Toileting.





Transferring.

Mobility Assistance



Wound Care. Tratamiento de heridas



Changing Briefs. Cambio de pañales.



Device care or use. Cuidado o uso de equipo médico.



Cleaning & Disinfecting the Environment. Limpieza y desinfección del entorno.



Determine transmissionbased precaution



Determine facility's ability to implement Enhanced **Barrier Precautions**



Reinforce the need for Healthcare **Associated** adherence monitoring **Infections Program**

Importance of Microbiology Lab Results (cont.)



Assists with cohorting residents



Disinfectant use



Antimicrobial stewardship

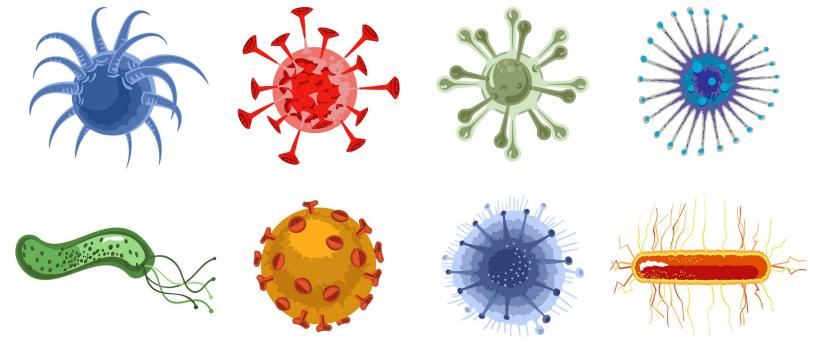




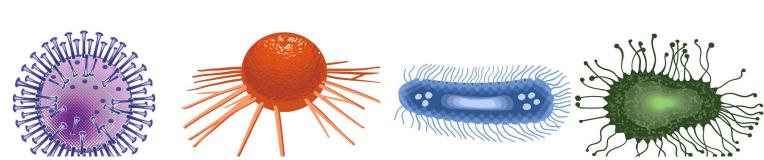
Healthcare

Associated Infections

Program



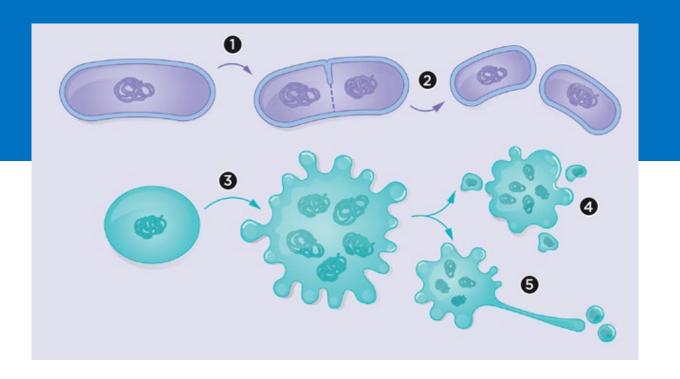
Microorganisms

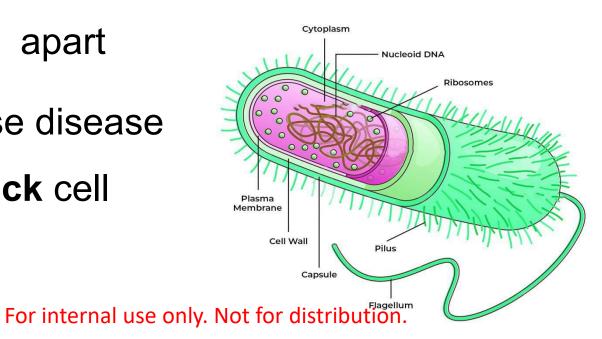




Bacteria

- Single-celled
- Cannot be seen with the naked eye
- Replicate by splitting apart
- May or may not cause disease
- May have thin or thick cell walls







Bacterial Shapes

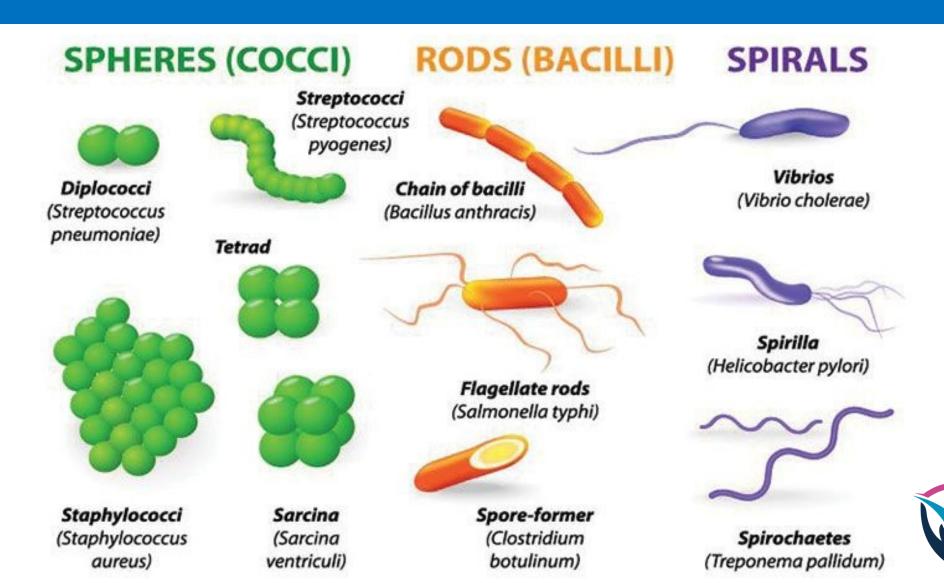
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Healthcare

Associated

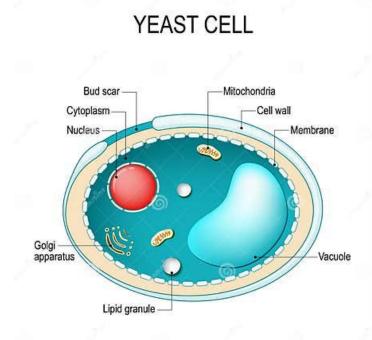
Infections

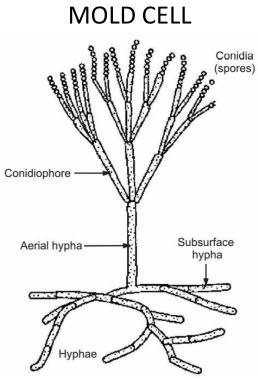
Program



Fungi

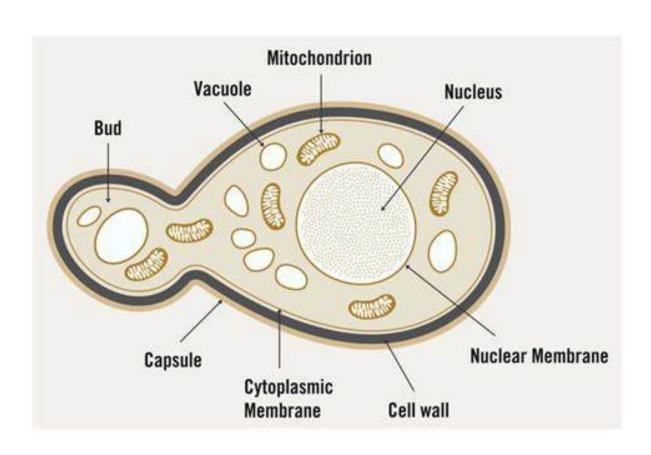
- Typically large compared to bacteria
- Tough cell wall
- Reproduce by splitting apart or budding off
- May cause infection in humans
- Divided into two groups:
 - Yeasts
 - Molds







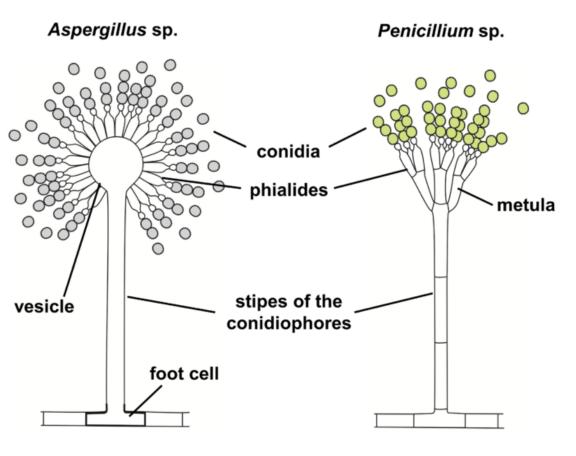
Fungi - Yeasts



- Single cell & round
- Reproduce by budding
- May cause infections on different parts of the body
- Ex. Candida spp., Cryptococcus



Fungi - Molds



- Has many cells
- Long, branching cells
- Form spores to reproduce
- Allergic reaction & respiratory issues
- Ex. Aspergillus



© M. Piepenbring, CC BY-SA

- Smaller than bacteria
- Contain RNA/DNA, surrounded by protein "coat"
- Intracellular parasites

Viruses

Some use in treatment



Knowledge Check

Microbiology labs results help with decisions on...

- a. Traffic
- b. What to eat
- c. Cohorting residents
- d. Measuring



Knowledge Check - Answer

Microbiology labs results help with decisions on...

- a. Traffic
- b. What to eat
- c. Cohorting residents
- d. Measuring



Common Identification Tests

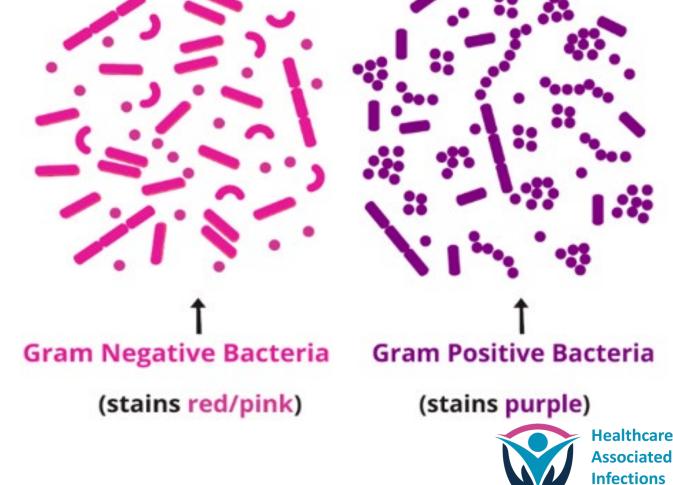
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Gram Staining

- Classifies bacteria into 2 large groups:
 - gram-negative (-)
 - gram-positive (+)
- Differentiates bacteria by the properties of their cell walls
 - Thin-walled
 - Thick-walled

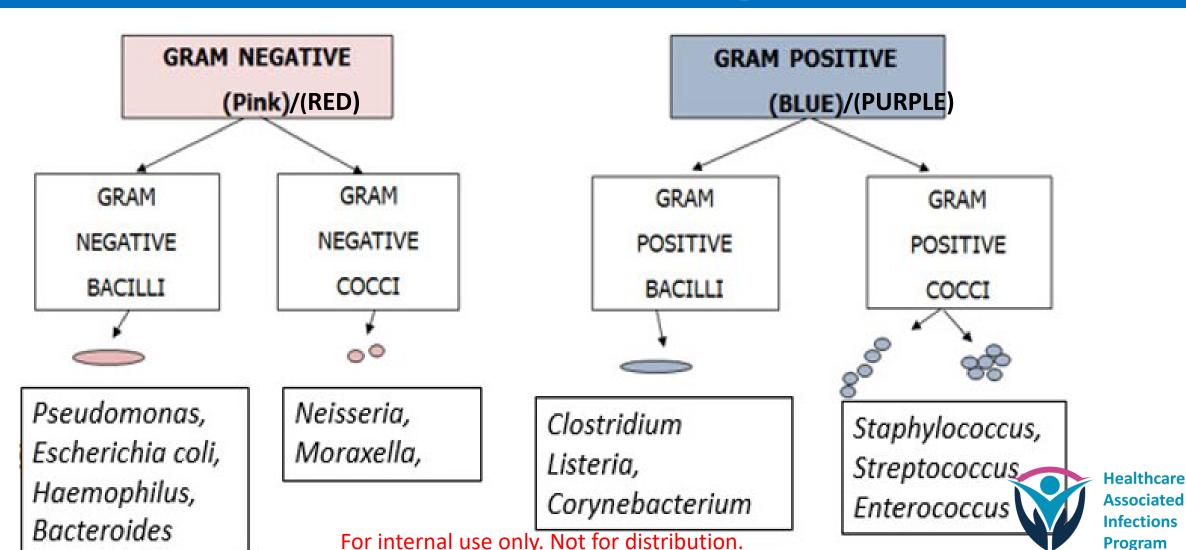


Program

Guides antibiotic therapy

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Gram Stain Identifies Four Basic Bacteria Groups



Culture Testing

- Used to grow bacteria and fungi
 - Can grow a single bacterial strain
 - Can grow more than one type of bacteria
 - Can grow nothing at all
- Identifies specific genus and species
- Identifies colony forming units (CFU) Ex. *Acinetobacter* spp.





Pacterial Culture and Gram Stain Sterile Container Abdomen

Status: Edited Result - FINAL Visible to patient: No (inaccessible in MyChart)

Next appt: 03/05/2025 at 11:00 AM in

Specimen Information: Abdomen; Abscess

Specimen Comment: Abdomen

0 Result Notes

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Component

Gram Stain Result

Heavy red blood cells
Heavy Gram positive bacilli
Few Gram positive cocci
Heavy polymorphonucleated white blood cells

Body Site Culture



Acinetobacter baumannii

Moderate

Identification performed by Mass Spectrometry (Maldi-ToF). This test was developed and its performance characteristics determined by Microbiology Laboratory. It has not been cleared or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The FDA has determined that such clearance or approval is not necessary.

Susceptibility testing performed by broth microdilution using a commercially prepared panel intended for research use only. This test was developed and its



Knowledge Check

In a Gram stain test, a <u>gram-negative</u> bacteria will look:

- a. The organism will look burgundy
- b. The cell wall has many long-chain fatty acids
- c. The organism will look pink
- d. The test must be voided due to contamination



Knowledge Check - Answer

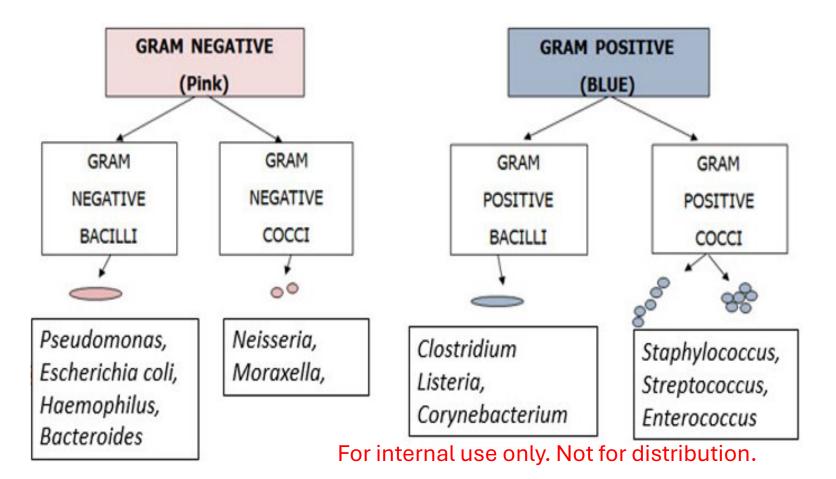
In a Gram stain test, a <u>gram-negative</u> bacteria will look like:

- a. The organism will look burgundy
- b. The cell wall has many long-chain fatty acids
- c. The organism will look pink
- d. The test must be voided due to contamination



Knowledge Check

You received preliminary lab results that indicate a "gram-negative bacilli." Which organism could the lab be referring to?

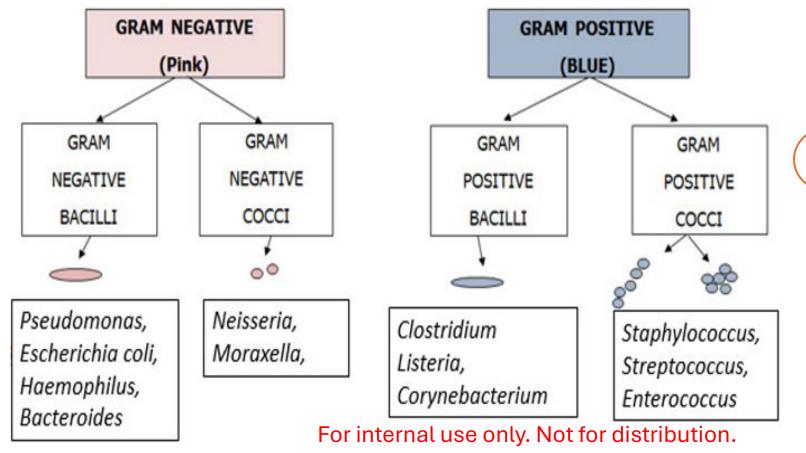


- a. Clostridium
- b. Pseudomonas
- c. Streptococcus
- d. Neisseria



Knowledge Check

You received preliminary lab results that indicate a "gram-negative bacilli." Which organism could the lab be referring to?



- a. Clostridium
- b. Pseudomonas
- c. Streptococcus
- d. Neisseria







No lab test is 100% accurate 100% of the time Many factors can affect accuracy of laboratory tests

Just ask!



Considerations for Microbiology Test Results

- Presence of an organism does not always mean disease
 - Residents may be colonized with an organism
 - Bacterial growth may confirm infection if found in normally sterile sites
- Providers must take into account
 - Other tests to determine infection (e.g., CBC)
 - Signs & symptoms of resident



Blood Tests: Infection Markers

Blood tests are used to evaluate overall health



Infection Marker	Significance
C-reactive protein (CRP)	Indicates inflammation & severity of infection
White blood cell count (WBC)	Immune response & infection presence
Procalcitonin (PCT)	Differentiates bacterial from viral infections
Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)	Indicates inflammation & infection, non-specific

Associated Infections

Program

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Healthcare Associated Infections

Program

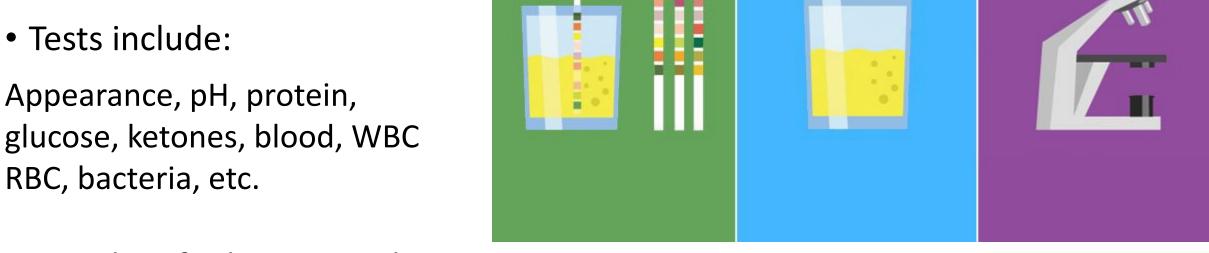
Blood Tests: Cell Counts

Cell Type	Normal Range	Increased \leftarrow	Decreased
White Blood Cells	4,500 to 11,000 cells/microliter	Ongoing infection	Possible Viral infection or weakened immune system
Red Blood Cells	4.5-5.5 million cells/microliter for men, 4.0-5.0 million cells/microliter for women	Dehydration, bone marrow issues	Possible cancer, bone marrow issues
Platelets	150,000-450,000 platelets/microlit er	Ongoing infection	Clotting issues, bone marrow problems, cancer

Urinalysis "UA"

- Uses visual exam, microscopic exam, & dipstick methods to assess presence of disease

Appearance, pH, protein, glucose, ketones, blood, WBC RBC, bacteria, etc.



 Based on findings providers may order additional tests



Knowledge Check

What does it mean when someone is colonized?

- a. Disease has taken over
- b. You can see the organism on the person
- c. They have Colony Forming Units
- d. The organism has become apart of a person's normal flora



Knowledge Check - Answer

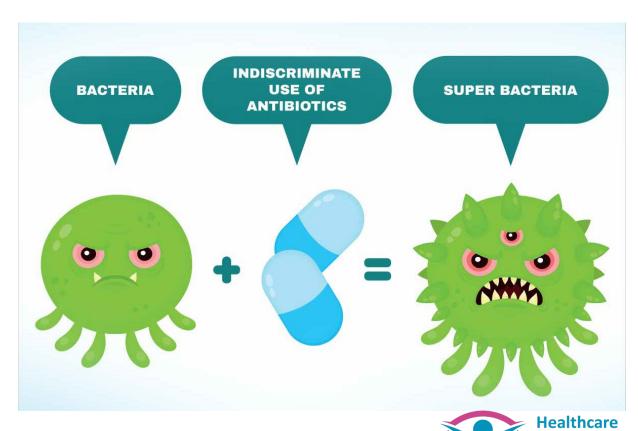
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- a. Disease has taken over
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- d. The organism has become apart of a person's normal flora



Antibiotic Resistance (AR)

- When germs develop the ability to defeat the drugs designed to kill them
- Misuse & overuse of antimicrobials, including antibiotics & antifungals, in healthcare and agriculture
- Develop multidrug-resistance
- Has the potential to affect healthcare, veterinary, & agriculture industries

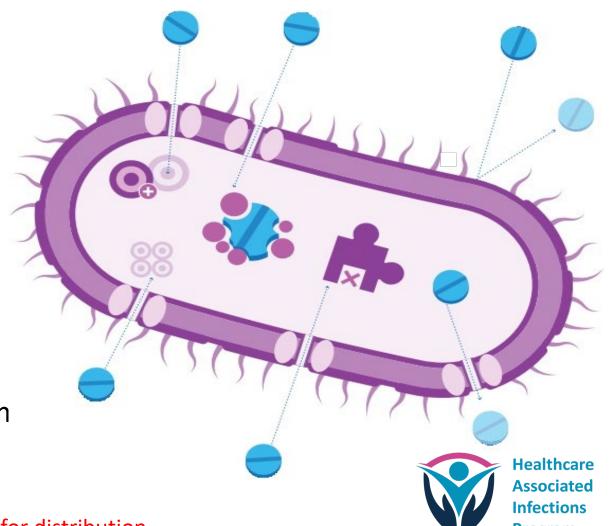


Associated

Resistance Mechanisms

- Various ways that microorganisms survive in the environment
- Public Health concern about production and sharing of genes that make all kinds of microorganisms be able to gain resistance quickly

(Ex. carbapenemase-producing, carbapenem resistant organisms (CP-CRO))



Carbapenem-Resistant Organisms (CRO)

- Microorganisms that can render one or more carbapenem drugs, ineffective
- What are carbapenems?
 - Potent beta-lactam antibiotics
 - Valuable in severe infections
 - Examples
 - Ertapenem*
 - Doripenem
 - Imipenem*
 - Meropenem*

* = common in lab tests

Ex. Carbapenem-resistant organisms

- Enterobacterales (CRE)
 - Klebsiella pneumoniae, E. coli
- Pseudomonas aeruginosa (CRPA)
- Acinetobacter baumannii (CRAB)



CROs continued

Enterobacterales

- Escherichia coli
- Klebsiella pneumoniae
- Enterobacter
- Citrobacter
- Hafnia
- Morganella
- Proteus
- Providencia
- Serratia

Pseudomonas

- Pseudomonas aeruginosa
- Pseudomonas maltophilia

Acinetobacter calcoaceticus-Acinetobacter baumannii complex:

- Acinetobacter calcoaceticus
- Acinetobacter baumannii
- Acinetobacter pittii
- Acinetobacter nosocomialis

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Knowledge Check

What has been contributing to antibiotic resistance?

- a. Measles
- b. Vaccinations
- c. Chickens
- d. Misuse of antibiotics



Knowledge Check - Answer

What has been contributing to antibiotic resistance?

- a. Measles
- b. Vaccinations
- c. Chickens
- d. Misuse of antibiotics



Carbapenemase-producing Organisms (CPO)

 Organisms that produce enzymes that inactive carbapenems are called carbapenemase

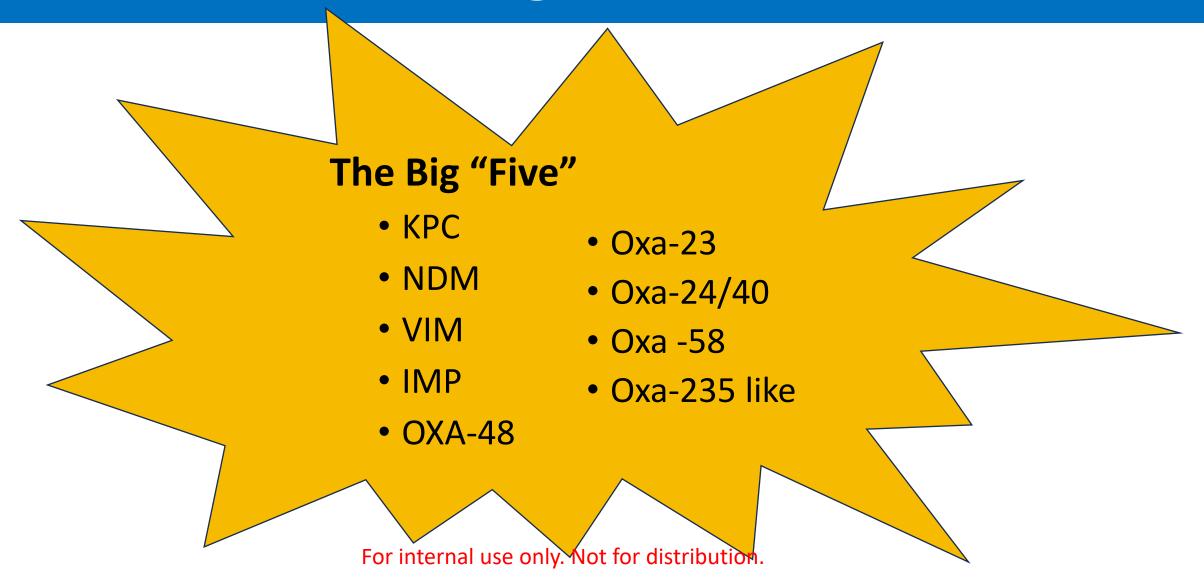
 Leads to limited treatment, high mortality rates, may cause outbreaks

 Acquired/inherited by other CROs that may carry the gene(s) possible for carbapenemase production Ex. Carbapenemase-Producing (CP), Carbapenem-resistant organisms

- CP-CRE
- CP-CRPA
- CP-CRAB



Carbapenemase gene mechanisms



Resistance Mechanism Test Example

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CTX-M resistance marker PCR, BAL

DETECTED !

Not Detected

Comment: When CTX-M is detected, physicians should consider treating with carbapenems.

IMP resistance marker PCR, BAL

Not Detected

Not Detected

KPC resitance marker PCR. BAL

DETECTED !

Not Detected

Comment: This result has been reported to the San Diego County Public Health Laboratory and Epidemiology Unit as required by the California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 2505.

When KPC, NDM, VIM, IMP, or OXA-48 are detected, physicians should consider consulting Infectious Diseases for treatment options.

NDM resistance marker PCR, BAL Not Detected

Not Detected

OXA-48-like resistance marker PCR, BAL Not Detected

Not Detected

VIM resistance marker PCR, BAL Not Detected

Not Detected

Concerning Multidrug-resistant Organisms

Targeted by CDC

- Pan-resistant organisms
- CP-CRE
- CP-CRPA
- CP-CRAB
- Candida auris (fungus)

Epidemiologically important MDROs

- **MRSA**
- **ESBL-producing Enterobacterales**
- **VRE**
- Multidrugresistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa
- **Drug-resistant Streptococcus** pneumoniae



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What do I do about target organisms?

1. Target organisms

- 1. Reportable to Public Health
- 2. Follow IPC guidelines
- 3. Monitor outcomes & outbreaks
- 4. Public health guidelines

2. Epidemiologic important organisms

- 1. Monitor outcomes & outbreaks
- 2. Develop facility level guidelines*





Knowledge Check

What do CPOs do?

- a. Kill pathogens
- b. Produce carbapenemase
- c. Identify pathogens
- d. Secretes antibodies



Knowledge Check - Answer

What do CPOs do?

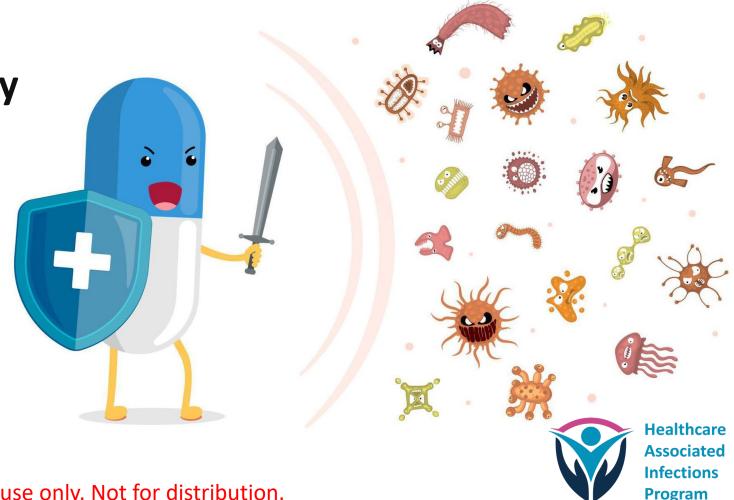
- a. Kill pathogens
- b. Produce carbapenemase
- c. Identify pathogens
- d. Secretes antibodies



Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing

 Antimicrobial Susceptibility **Testing (AST)**

 Antifungal Susceptibility **Testing** (AFST)



Types of Testing

Tests	Description
Disk Diffusion Broth Microdilution	Shows if an organism is resistant, intermediate, or susceptible to a variety of antibiotics/antifungals (ex. AST)
mCIM (modified carbapenem inactivation method) STAR-Carba	Quickly detects presence of carbapenemase production (yes or no)
PCR (polymerase chain reaction)	Quickly detects presence of DNA of an organism (ex. Candida auris, CRO, CP-CRO)
WGS (whole genome sequencing) For internal use only, Not	Used for surveillance, outbreaks, may identify related cases vs. non-related cases

For internal use only. Not for distribution.

AST Examples

	P. aeruginosa 🎚		
ANTIBIOTICS	MIC mcg/mL	INT	
Amikacin	<=8	S	D1
Aztreonam	8	S	D1
Ceftazidime	2	S	D2
Ciprofloxacin	<=0.5	S	D2
Cefepime	2	S	D2
Gentamicin	<=2	S	Di
Meropenem	4	14	5
Tobramycin	<=2	S	D
Piperacillin/Tazobactam	4/4	S	D:

✓ Pseudomonas aeruginosa

X CRO

X CP

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	P. aeruginosa	2	
ANTIBIOTICS	MIC mcg/mL	INT	
Amikacin	<=8	S	D
Aztreonam	16	- 1	D
Ceftazidime	>16	R	D
Ciprofloxacin	2	R	D
Cefepime	8	S	D
Gentamicin	<=2	s	P
Meropenem	>8	R	1
Tobramycin	<=2	S	D
Piperacillin/Tazobactam	>64/4	R	D

✓ Pseudomonas aeruginosa

✓ CRO = CRPA

X CP

Culture

Many Klebsiella (Enterobacter) aerogenes (A)

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Carbapenem Resistant Organism MDRO

Comments:

AST Examples

✓ Klebsiellaaerogenes✓ CRO = CRE? CP

Gram Stain		Many WB0 No organis		
Susceptibility	Klehsiella	(Enteroba	icter) aerogen	as Ind
	MIC		mmmmmmmmmmm	***************************************
Ampicillin	>16	ug/ml	R	
Ampicillin + Sulbactam	>16/8	ug/ml	R	
Cefazolin	>32	ug/ml	R¹	
Cefepime	4	ug/ml	SSD	
Ceftazidime	>16	ug/ml	R	
Ceftriaxone	>32	ug/ml	R	
Ciprofloxacin	<=0.5	ug/ml	S	
Ertapenem	>1	ug/ml	R ²	
Gentamicin	2	ug/ml	S	
Levofloxacin	<=1	ug/ml	S	
Piperacillin + Tazobactam	>64/4	ug/ml	R	
Tobramycin	2	ug/ml	S	
Trimethoprim + Sulfamethoxazole	<=0,5/9.5	ug/ml	S	



AST Examples

Final - June 03, 2023 9:26 PDT -Sparse growth of Klebsiella pneumoniae

--- Multiple Drug Resistant Organism (MDRO).

Confirmatory tests indicate resistance due to carbapenemase production.

The clinical efficacy of carbapenems has not been established

for organisms exhibiting this register

- --- POSITIVE for KPC gene
- --- IMP gene: Not Detected , VIM gene: Not Detected ,
- --- NDM gene: Not Detected, OXA48 gene: Not Detected

√ Klebsiella pneumoniae

- $\sqrt{\text{CRO}} = \text{CRE}$
- CP (KPC gene)

CP-CRE For internal use only. Not for distribution.

Pre - January 21, 2019 11:40 PST -Aerobic Lottle: Pseudomonas aeruginosa Multiple Drug Resistant Organism (MDRO). Confirmatory tests indicate resistance due to carbapenemase production. The clinical efficacy of carbapenems has not been established for organisms exhibiting this resistance protern. VIM gene detected Aerobic bottle: No growth after less than 1 day incubation

- ✓ Pseudomonas aeruginosa
- $\sqrt{\text{CRO}} = \text{CRPA}$
- √ CP (VIM gene)
- ✓ CP-CRPA

Test Your Knowledge

Identification	Acinetobacter baumannii complex
CPO Real Time PCR	
blaIMP	Not Detected
blaKPC	Not Detected
blaNDM	Not Detected
blaCXA-48	Not Detected
blaVIM	Not Detected
OXA variant Multiplex Real-Time PCR	
OXA-23 like	Not Detected
OXA-24/40 like	Not Detected
OXA-58 like	Not Detected
OXA-235 like	Not Detected

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Knowledge Check

Klebsiella aerogenes is resistant to the antibiotic, Ertapenem. What does this mean?

- a. The antibiotic will work against the organism
- b. The antibiotic will not work against the organism
- c. The organism will digest the antibiotic
- d. The organism will not digest the antibiotic



Knowledge Check - Answer

Klebsiella aerogenes is resistant to the antibiotic, Ertapenem. What does this mean?

- a. The antibiotic will work against the organism
- b.) The antibiotic will not work against the organism
- c. The organism will digest the antibiotic
- d. The organism will not digest the antibiotic

Carbapenem-resistant Klebsiella aerogenes or CRE



Summary

Microbiology is Important for HAI Prevention



Microbiology knowledge can help with:

- Managing outbreaks
- Understand testing
- Infection surveillance
- Alerts to unusual pathogen changes in antibiotic susceptibility
- Infection prevention and control actions



When in doubt, reach out!

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San Diego Healthcare-associated Infections Program is here for you





Resources

Healthcare Associated

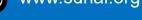
- https://www.apic.org/Resource /TinyMceFileManager/2016/IPs Guide to t he Lab 012016.pdf
- https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/hcp/isolation-precautions/appendix-a-type-duration.html
- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK604207/
- https://reach.cdc.gov/sites/default/files/job-aidsresources/Gram Stain Procedure Branded 508.pdf
- https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/haiprogram/transmission-precautions.html

Questions?

For more information, contact Jennifer.West1@sdcounty.ca.gov

Thank you!







phs.hai.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov







County HAI Program can help!







Outbreak response

Support IP rounding

Interpret state/federal guidance

Support staff in-services

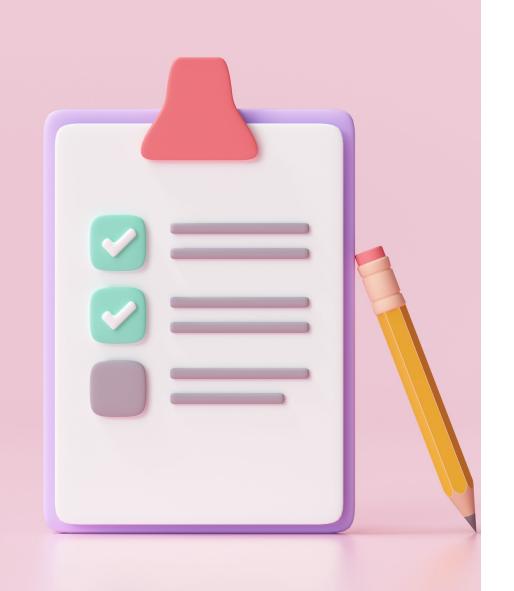
Support quality improvement projects

Share resources and tools



www.sdhai.org phs.hai.hhsa@sdcounty.ca.gov

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Next Collaborative

August 27, 2025
11:00AM – 12:00PM

Microsoft TEAMS

Featured Topic:

Flunovid+RSV

1 Contact Hour Offered

Submit questions or feedback about today's meeting to:

PHS.HAI.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov

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- Ensure your TEAMS name is your full name
- Complete by July 25th, 5:00 PM
- Expect your certificate by August 15th.







Contact us at:

PHS.HAI.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov



The Public Health Services department, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, has maintained national public health accreditation, since May 17, 2016, and was re-accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board on August 21, 2023.



