

# Hospital Admission Screening Checklist for Carbapenemase-producing Organisms (CPO) and *Candida auris*

## FOR HOSPITALS ESTABLISHING A SCREENING PROGRAM

### Initiative

- The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) asks acute care hospitals to establish an admission screening program for detection of carbapenemase-producing organisms (CPO) and *Candida auris*. Learn more at [Hospital Admission Screening for CPO and \*C. auris\* Colonization \(www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/candidiasis/auris/hcp/screen.html\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/candidiasis/auris/hcp/screen.html).
- In accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) guidance on [Screening for \*Candida auris\* Colonization \(www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris/c-auris-screening.html\)](http://www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris/c-auris-screening.html), MDH recommends screening patients for CPO and *C. auris* with a history of health care outside of the U.S. or Canada in the last 12 months:
  - Overnight stay in a health care facility
  - Ambulatory surgery
  - Hemodialysis
- A coordinated approach by acute care hospitals will allow for early identification of antibiotic-resistant pathogens deemed urgent in [CDC: Biggest Threats and Data \(www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/biggest-threats.html\)](http://www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/biggest-threats.html) and prevent spread of these organisms within and between facilities in Minnesota.

### Planning and swab logistics

- Involve leadership from Infection Prevention, Infectious Diseases, Nursing, and Laboratory (e.g., Microbiology lab).
- Develop protocols specific to your facility for obtaining, storing, collecting, and transporting swabs.
  - Order swabs from MDH-Public Health Laboratory (PHL) free-of-charge (requests submitted by 10 am are delivered next day): [Antibiotic Resistance \(AR\) Laboratory Network \(www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/forms.html#arforms\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/forms.html#arforms).
  - Different swabs will be needed for CPO vs. *C. auris* screening.
- Identify a location to store swabs kits until needed (e.g., with Microbiology).
- Obtain the proper AR Lab Network Submission Form: [Antibiotic Resistance \(AR\) Laboratory Network \(www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/forms.html#arforms\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/idlab/forms.html#arforms).
- Plan for transport of specimens to MDH-PHL via normal courier or FedEx at no cost to the facility.

## Workflow considerations

- Involve your information technology staff for building out the electronic medical record system to accommodate screening, including:
  - New questions on patient history form (i.e., history of health care abroad in last 12 months, as described above).
  - Set patient history form trigger(s) for admission screening flag.
  - Establish nursing best practice alert (BPA).
- Involve Laboratory Information System (LIS) to build lab test.
- Establish workflow for specimen collection, according to guidance included with the swabs.
- Place patients on Contact Precautions, preferably in a private room and bathroom, until receipt of negative test result.
  - Turnaround time for results during weekdays is usually 48 hours.

## Staff and patient education

- Utilize instructions for collecting and packaging specimens included with swabs from PHL.
- Educate floor nursing staff about screening recommendations and facility-specific protocols.
- Refer to [Frequently Asked Questions about Admission Screening for CPO and \*C. auris\* Colonization \(www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/candidiasis/auris/hcp/screenfaq.pdf\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/candidiasis/auris/hcp/screenfaq.pdf) when communicating screening with patients.

## Managing screening test results

- Establish plan for recording and communicating screening results.
  - Screening test results are intended to inform infection prevention and control action, not clinical care.
- Discharge should occur when medically appropriate. Pending screening results should not impact discharge plans.
  - Upon discharge, communicate positive and pending screening results to receiving facility.

## Action items

- Contact MDH to begin admission screening program.
  - HAI/AR Section: [health.hai@state.mn.us](mailto:health.hai@state.mn.us)
  - MDH-PHL: [health.arlnmn@state.mn.us](mailto:health.arlnmn@state.mn.us)
- Call MDH at 651-201-5414 or 877-676-5414 with questions regarding admission screening processes.

HOSPITAL ADMISSION SCREENING CHECKLIST FOR CPOs AND C. AURIS

Minnesota Department of Health  
Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Prevention and Control  
PO Box 64975  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0975  
651-201-5414  
[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)

11/19/21

*To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5414.*