



DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
POLICY AND PROCEDURE

TOPIC: *Candida Auris*

POLICY: All staff will follow the guidelines as outlined by the CDC in order to decrease the potential for the transmission of the multidrug-resistant yeast *Candida Auris*.

PROCEDURE:

1. Medical Director / DNS will be notified of any admission with diagnosis of *C. Auris*
- 2 Residents will be placed in Private room as available. If private room unavailable facility will cohort resident with *C auris* as indicated.
3. Resident will be placed on Contact Precautions.

I. TRANSMISSION BASED PRECAUTIONS

1. Patients with *C. auris* should be placed in single rooms and managed using Contact Precautions.
 - If a limited number of single rooms are available, they should be reserved for patients who may be at highest risk of transmitting *C. auris*, particularly patients requiring higher levels of care (e.g., bed-bound). Patients with *C. auris* could be placed in rooms with other patients with *C. auris*. Patients colonized with *C. auris* and other multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) should be placed in rooms with patients colonized with the same MDROs. CDC does not recommend placing patients with *C. auris* in rooms with patients with other types of MDROs.
2. The ability of Nursing home residents with *C. auris* to leave their isolation rooms will be determined by the PMD.
3. If residents with *C. auris* receive physical therapy or other shared services, staff should not work with other patients while working with the affected patient. They should use a gown and gloves when they anticipate touching the patient or potentially contaminated equipment. Ideally, affected patients should be the last to receive therapy



on a given day. Shared equipment should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after use.

II. RESIDENT TRANSPORT WITHIN THE FACILITY

1. When a resident with *C. auris* requires transport within the facility, they will be transported on a clean stretcher or wheelchair, with clean linens, for movement through the facility. The resident's belongings should remain in the isolation room whenever possible. PPE (gowns and gloves) should be used by staff during transport as needed according to Standard Precautions and facility policy. Transport stretchers and wheelchairs should be cleaned and disinfected with an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered hospital-grade disinfectant effective against *C. difficile* spores and according to the manufacturer's instructions when the transport is complete and before using the equipment on another resident.

III. RESIDENT TRANSFER BETWEEN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

1. When a resident is transferred between healthcare facilities, the receiving facility will be notified of the recommended infection control precautions for patients with *C. auris* infection or colonization.
2. The NYSDOH regional epidemiologist should be notified before a patient with *C. auris* colonization or infection is transferred to another healthcare facility whenever possible.
3. EMS transporting agencies that are used for transport should be informed regarding the recommended infection control precautions and enforce policies for cleaning and decontamination of authorized EMS response vehicles and equipment.

IV. LABORATORY TESTING

1. The facility will work with NYSDOH Epidemiology and follow recommendations and instructions for lab testing and follow up cultures.



V. SCREENING

1. Prior to or upon a resident's admission to the facility, the PRI and hospital discharge instructions will be reviewed for any clinical indication(s) of *C. auris*.
2. If there is any clinical indication that a resident has been infected with *C. auris*, the PMD/Designee will initiate Contact Precautions and contact the NYSDOH Regional Epidemiologist.

https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/diseases/reporting/communicable/infection/regional_epi_staff.htm

VI. CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

1. An EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectant effective against *Clostridium difficile* spores is recommended for surface disinfection. Surface disinfectants should be used according to the manufacturer's directions including ensuring the correct contact time. All Nursing and Housekeeping staff will be inserviced on the use of proper disinfectants.
2. Housekeeping staff are responsible for thorough daily and terminal cleaning/disinfection of residents' rooms and areas outside of their room where they receive care.
3. Reusable non-critical equipment will be dedicated to residents on *C. auris* Contact Precautions whenever possible. Shared equipment should be cleaned and disinfected routinely before use by another resident.