
Lab Dept: Microbiology/Virology

Test Name: CANDIDA AURIS COLONIZATION SCREENING (MDH)

General Information

Lab Order Codes: CAURIS

Synonyms: *C. auris*
Candida auris PCR

Combined CPO (Carbapenemase-producing organisms) and *C. auris* admission screening

CPT Codes: 87481 – Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA)

Test Includes: *C. auris* real-time PCR

Logistics

Test indications: Screening to prevent nosocomial and post-acute transmissions

The Minnesota Department of Health recommends screening patients upon hospital admission for CPO and *C. auris* with a history of:

- Overnight stay in a health care facility outside the United States or Canada in the previous 12 months.
- Ambulatory surgery or hemodialysis outside of the United States or Canada in the previous 12 months.
- Inpatient or skilled nursing facility stay in the previous 12 months in areas with documented transmission according to tracking data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Lab Testing Sections: Sendouts

Referred to: Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

Phone Numbers: MIN Lab: 612-813-6280

STP Lab: 651-220-6550

Test Availability: Monday-Friday

Turnaround Time: Results are available in 1-4 business days

Special Instructions: Ordering provider or Infection Prevention must obtain prior approval from AR Lab Network Central Region Lab before collection of specimens.
arlnmn@state.mn.us

Testing is reserved for patients who meet Hospital Admission Screening requirements. Consult with Infection Prevention if there are questions. This test is typically ordered in conjunction with CPO screening (MDH).

Call Children's Sendouts Laboratory to obtain collection swab.

Specimen

Specimen Type: Bilateral Axilla and Groin swab

Container: Nylon flocked eSwab collection and transport system



Must call Sendouts Laboratory for MDH *C. auris* collection kit

Draw Volume: n/a

Processed Volume: n/a

Collection: The kit contains a single swab. Use the single swab to sample the right and left axilla and the right and left groin areas. Rub the swab across each indicated site at least 3-5 times.

See MDH Sampling Instructions for further details:
[Guidance for Candida auris Colonization Test Sampling and Specimen Handling Methods \(state.mn.us\)](#)

Special Processing:	<p>Lab Staff:</p> <p>Hold at room temperature for courier pick up on same day. Refrigerate specimen if unable to send out same day.</p> <p>Package according to MDH kit instructions. Must be sent out in Category B Biological Substance box with MDH ARLN test request form (Check Project 2335 box). Antibiotic resistance Laboratory Network (ARLN) Clinical Testing and Submission Form (state.mn.us)</p> <p>Send out at room temperature with standard MDH courier, picked up in St Paul lab Monday-Saturday.</p> <p>Specimen must be tested within four days of collection.</p>
Patient Preparation:	n/a
Sample Rejection:	Specimen will be rejected if not received in the eSwab transport system (containing Liquid Amies fluid). Do not send dry swabs; Unlabeled or mislabeled specimens will be rejected. Labeling must contain a minimum of 2 patient identifiers, date of collection and site of collection (source).

Interpretive

Reference Range:	Negative
Critical Values:	MDH will call Infection Prevention with positive results
Limitations:	n/a
Methodology:	Real-time PCR
References:	<p>Frequently Asked Questions about Admission Screening for CPO and C. auris Colonization (state.mn.us)</p> <p>Hospital Admission Screening for CPO and C. auris Colonization - Minnesota Dept. of Health (state.mn.us)</p>
Updates:	10/18/2022