

# *Candida auris*

## *(C. auris)*



*C. auris* is a fungus that spreads in healthcare settings and can be difficult to treat.

### **WHAT** is *C. auris*?

- *C. auris* is a type of fungus that can cause serious infections.

### **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.
- Most people who carry *C. auris* do not have any signs or symptoms, this is called colonization
- *C. auris* infections can be difficult to treat and can lead to severe illness or death.

### **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.
- Healthy people have a lower risk of getting *C. auris*.

### **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.
- Always follow contact isolation instructions posted at the patient's room.

### **WHERE** can I get more information?

- [www.sdhai.org](http://www.sdhai.org)

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