

***Candida auris* identification**

Revised 7/16/18

Test description	Identification of yeast as <i>Candida auris</i> .
Test use	Confirmation of yeast isolates identified as or suspected of being <i>Candida auris</i> .
Test Department	Mycobacteriology (TB)/Mycology Phone: (860) 920-6649; Fax: (860) 920-6721
Methodology	MALDI-TOF (Matrix Assisted Laser Induced Desorption Ionization-Time of Flight) Mass Spectroscopy and Real-Time PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction).
Availability	Daily, Monday–Friday as needed.
Specimen Requirements	Pure culture isolates of yeast.
Collection Kit/Container	Follow all applicable federal regulations for packaging of infectious substances.
Collection instructions	Submit culture isolates on any agar-based media slants that support the growth of yeast. Mycology specific media is not necessary (<i>C. auris</i> can grow on blood or chocolate agar slants). Sabouraud Dextrose Agar is the preferred media for primary isolation.
Specimen Handling & Transport	Transport cultures to the laboratory at ambient temperature. Avoid temperature extremes.
Unacceptable Conditions	Unlabeled specimens. Culture containers that have broken in transit.
Requisition Form	Clinical Test Requisition (select <i>Candida auris</i> Identification).
Required Information	Name and address of submitter (and/or Horizon profile #). Patient name or identifier, town of residence (city, state, zip), date of birth. Specimen source/type, date collected and test requested.
Limitations	Final identification will be based on the overall evaluation of culture purity, Gram stain, MALDI-TOF and Real-Time PCR results. Identifications will be reported as either <i>Candida auris</i> , <i>Candida</i> sp. (not <i>Candida auris</i>) or Yeast (not <i>Candida auris</i>).
Additional Comments	<i>Candida auris</i> can be misidentified as a number of different organisms when using traditional biochemical identification methods such as VITEK 2 YST, API 20C, BD Phoenix and Multiscan. Refer to the CDC document <i>Algorithm to identify Candida auris based on phenotypic laboratory method and initial species identification</i> for when to suspect <i>C. auris</i> based on identification methods. https://www.cdc.gov/fungal/diseases/candidiasis/pdf/Testing-algorithm-by-Method-temp.pdf