



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Oct 16, 2023

From: Arizona State Public Health Laboratory, Office of Microbiology and Molecular Diagnostics

Re: *Candida auris* Colonization Swab PCR and Culture

Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) would like to announce the implementation of *Candida auris* PCR screening and culture at the Arizona State Public Health Laboratory (ASPHL) beginning Monday, October 16, 2023. Samples received by ASPHL must adhere to the following requirements:

1. Specimens must be collected from the skin of the axilla and/or groin regions using COPAN ESwabs® with Amies transport medium.
2. Specimens must be stored and shipped at room temperature (18-25°C) and received by ASPHL within seven (7) calendar days of collection.
3. Specimens must be clearly labeled with at least two patient identifiers (e.g. the patient's full name and date of birth), and each must be accompanied by a printed copy of the ADHS submission form (Note: An ETOR account is required to generate an ADHS submission form).

ADHS will provide collection kits with the following components upon request:

- COPAN ESwab® collection devices
- Individual biohazard bags
- Parafilm
- Shipping container
- Category B (UN 3373) label
- ADHS *Candida auris* Colonization Swab Specimen Collection Guide
- ADHS *Candida auris* Colonization Swab ETOR Submission Guide

Facilities may begin requesting swabs for testing on Monday, October 16, 2023. **All collection events must be coordinated through local health departments.** For more information, please contact your [local health department](#).

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn Fitzpatrick'.

Kathryn Fitzpatrick, MPH, MBA, MB(ASCP)^{CM}

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