# Infection Risk Communication Tool

| Germ | Reservoirs where this germ lives | How does it spread? What's the pathway? | Why are we so worried about it? | Who is most at risk for getting sick if exposed? Why ? | PPE recommenda-tions (and why) | Other IPC actions for all HCWs to prevent spread | Any HCW roles or settings that have specific actions or informational needs? If so, which ones? | Specific informational needs for these roles/settings |
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| Candida auris (C. auris) | Skin<br>Dry Surfaces<br>Devices/ Equipment | C. auris can spread by touch through contact with contaminated environmental surfaces or equipment, or from person to person.<br><br>C. auris can enter the bloodstream (often through wounds, through surgical procedures, through medical devices like IVs or other times when the skin has broken down or is bypassed) | When C. auris enters the bloodstream, it can spread throughout the body causing serious infections that can be deadly.<br><br>C. auris is often resistant to common antifungal drugs, making infections difficult to treat.<br>Latest situational awareness on C. auris:<br>Tracking Candida auris \| Candida auris \| Fungal Diseases \| CDC | Patients (children and adults) who have recently spent time in nursing or acute care facilities homes and/or have had lines and tubes that go into their body (such as breathing tubes, feeding tubes and central venous catheters).<br>Why? These patients have had wounds or procedures like surgeries or had medical devices like IVs. These are times when the skin has broken down or been bypassed that become a pathway for C. auris on the skin to enter the bloodstream. | Gown<br>Gloves<br>Why? Keeps C. auris from being spread via hands or from contaminated clothes | Hand hygiene (ABHS preferred if hands aren't visibly dirty)<br>Note: wearing gloves is not a substitute for cleaning hands.<br><br>Cleaning and disinfecting the patient care environment (daily and terminal cleaning) and reusable equipment with recommended products on EPA List P. | Environmental services workers<br><br>Nurses (or those HCWs responsible for transferring patients between facilities)<br>Long-term care facilities | EVS: CDC recommends use of an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)–registered hospital-grade disinfectant effective against C. auris. To see a current list of EPA-approved products for C. auris, please see EPA's List P<br><br>Nurses: Notify receiving facility when patient has been identified to have C. auris (either infection or colonization)<br>Long-term care facilities: HCWs in these settings may be advised to use enhanced barrier precautions. |