

Request CDC's AR Lab Network Test to Prevent Spread of CRE

CRE Colonization Screening can stop “nightmare bacteria” from spreading.

Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) are a serious threat to public health. Infections with CRE are difficult, and in some cases impossible, to treat. Because patients move throughout the healthcare system, CRE in one facility can spread to other facilities in the region. CDC's new CRE Colonization Screening, offered through the AR Lab Network, detects gastrointestinal colonization with carbapenemase-producing CRE and other important healthcare threats, like *Pseudomonas* and *Acinetobacter*. Screening is a CDC-recommended intervention that can help stop the spread of CRE.

1.

Alert your HAI Coordinator and request CRE Colonization Screening.

Laboratories and facilities should immediately contact their clinical and infection prevention staff to ensure timely implementation of control measures.

Find your HAI Coordinator: www.cdc.gov/hai/state-based

Find CDC's CRE guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/cre/CRE-guidance-508.pdf>

2.

Send CRE swabs to your regional lab.

Your HAI Coordinator will help connect you to your CDC AR Lab Network regional lab who will conduct CRE colonization testing and send results to your facility, your HAI coordinator, and the state public health laboratory within two days.

3.

Implement infection control.

Adjust infection control measures based on test results. Follow procedures in the [CRE Control and Prevention Toolkit](#).

CRE Colonization Screenings:

- Uncover hidden reservoirs of CRE
- Are performed after a confirmed infection
- Detect the bug among epi-linked patients, high-risk contacts, and people who recently received healthcare outside of the U.S.

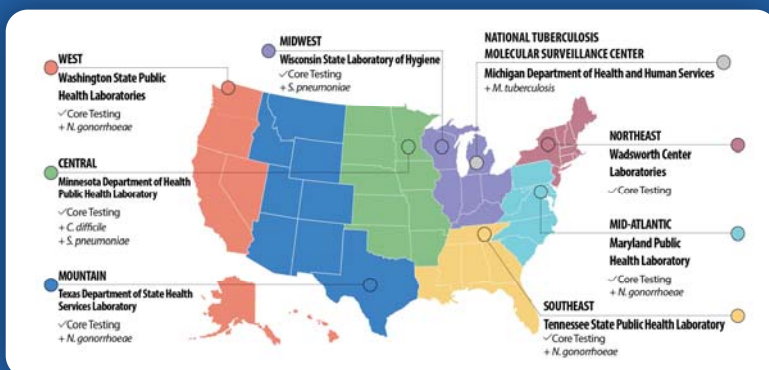
CDC's AR Lab Network can also test:

- Drug-resistant *Candida*, like *C. auris*
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CRPA)
- Emerging threats, like *mcr* (plasmid-mediated colistin resistance)
- *Clostridium difficile*
- *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- Drug-resistant *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*

- ☑ Shipping and testing are free
- ☑ Results in 2 days or less

YOUR STATE & REGIONAL LAB WORK TO:

DETECT RESISTANT SPECIES & NEW THREATS | PERFORM SUSCEPTIBILITY TESTING TO TRACK RESISTANCE | HELP RESPOND TO OUTBREAKS



About CDC's AR Lab Network

The AR Lab Network can rapidly detect antibiotic resistance in healthcare, food, and the community, and inform local responses to prevent spread and protect people. The AR Lab Network supports lab capacity in 56 state and local labs, including 7 regional labs and the National TB Center. The regional labs provide core testing, including *Candida* testing and CRE colonization testing, for states in their region. Some perform additional screening for *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, and *Clostridium difficile*.