

Clinical, reference, public health laboratories:

CDC AR Lab Network requests isolates of *Aspergillus fumigatus*

for surveillance of azole resistance

Testing for azole-resistance in *Aspergillus fumigatus* is now offered by the AR Lab Network Regional Labs located at the Maryland and Tennessee Public Health Laboratories (PHL). These laboratories perform screening for azole resistance with supplemental testing and additional antifungal susceptibility testing when warranted. Results will be reported to submitting facilities as well as jurisdictional public health departments within two weeks of receipt of the isolate. Testing is available to all states at no cost, including shipping.

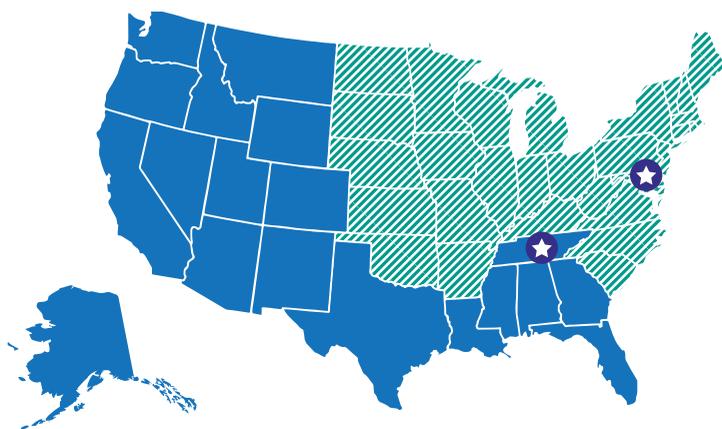
Clinical, reference, public health laboratories submitting isolates:

- › **Submit clonal isolates** (selected from a single colony) that have **already been identified as *Aspergillus fumigatus*** by any CLIA-approved method.
- › Ship on **Sabouraud Dextrose agar slant**.
- › **Prioritize isolates from invasive infections**, as well as isolates that, if tested, **show resistance to azoles**.

Why submit *Aspergillus* isolates?

The most common cause of human aspergillosis, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, **can develop resistance to azoles during long-term treatment of infected patients or in environments where azoles have been used in agriculture.*** Azole-resistant strains have been identified **in the United States**, increasing the need for awareness and action by clinical and public health professionals.

Please contact the designated AR Lab Network Regional Laboratory for your area (see coded map below) to discuss submission guidance and shipping instructions:



Send to Maryland Public Health Laboratory in Baltimore
Contact: MDPHL.arln@maryland.gov



Send to Tennessee Public Health Laboratory in Nashville
Contact: ARLN.health@tn.gov

Note: Contact your state health department for questions about whether isolates should be submitted directly to the AR Lab Network *Aspergillus* Laboratory or first to your state public health laboratory for forwarding, as states vary in requirements.

*Information and references about resistance in *Aspergillus*:

<https://www.cdc.gov/fungal/diseases/aspergillosis/antifungal-resistant.html>

If further information is needed, please contact aspergillus@cdc.gov or ARLN@cdc.gov

For more information on CDC's AR Lab Network, visit:
www.cdc.gov/drugresistance/laboratories.html



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control