

DRUG-RESISTANT **CANDIDA AURIS**

THREAT LEVEL **URGENT**



323
Clinical cases
in 2018



90% Isolates resistant to at least **one** antifungal
30% Isolates resistant to at least **two** antifungals

Candida auris (*C. auris*) is an emerging multidrug-resistant yeast (a type of fungus). It can cause severe infections and spreads easily between hospitalized patients and nursing home residents.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- *C. auris*, first identified in 2009 in Asia, has quickly become a cause of severe infections around the world.
- *C. auris* is a concerning drug-resistant fungus:
 - Often multidrug-resistant, with some strains (types) resistant to all three available classes of antifungals
 - Can cause outbreaks in healthcare facilities
 - Some common healthcare disinfectants are less effective at eliminating it
 - Can be carried on patients' skin without causing infection, allowing spread to others

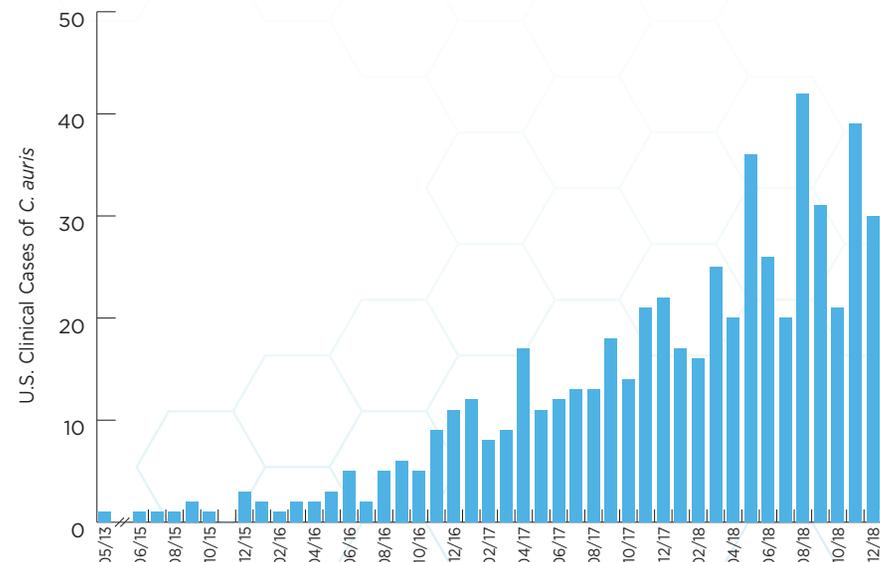
Data represents U.S. cases only. Isolates are pure samples of a germ.



**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

CASES OVER TIME

C. auris began spreading in the United States in 2015. Reported cases increased 318% in 2018 when compared to the average number of cases reported in 2015 to 2017.



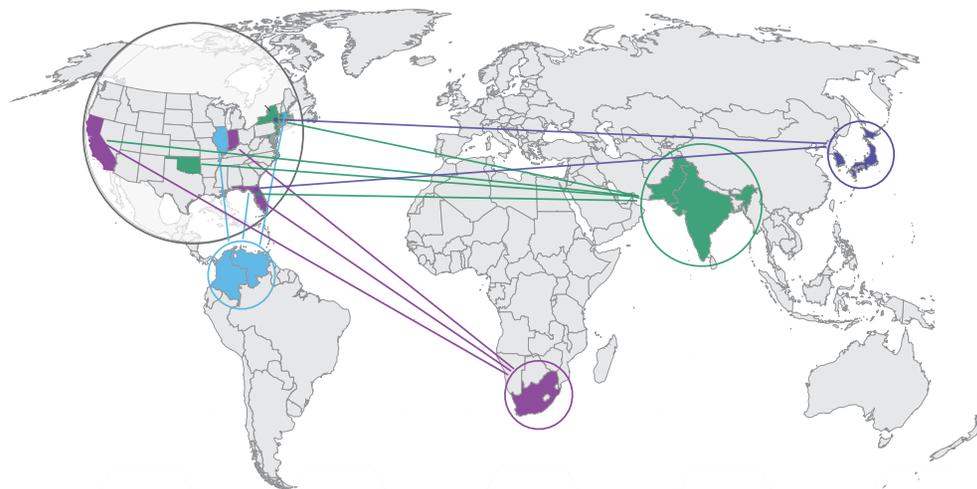
CONTAINING *C. AURIS*

It seemed hard to believe. CDC fungal experts had never received a report describing a *Candida* infection resistant to all antifungal medications, let alone *Candida* that spreads easily between patients. After hearing the news that infections like this were identified by international colleagues in 2016, CDC sounded the alarm in the United States about *C. auris*, a life-threatening *Candida* species.

Disease detectives from CDC and state and local health departments soon investigated some of the first U.S. *C. auris* infections. They learned more about how the fungus spreads, and how CDC, health departments, and healthcare facilities can contain it. A key finding was that *C. auris* spreads mostly in long-term healthcare facilities among patients with severe medical problems. CDC and partners developed new tests to rapidly identify it, and continue to work with healthcare facilities to control spread.

A GLOBAL THREAT

Investigators still do not know why four different strains of *C. auris* emerged around the same time across the globe. All four strains have been found in the United States, likely introduced through international travel and subsequent spread in U.S. healthcare facilities.



ONLINE RESOURCES

About *C. auris*

www.cdc.gov/fungal/Candida-auris/index.html

Information for Laboratorians and Healthcare Professionals

www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris/health-professionals.html