

# MDRO Containment in the Setting of COVID-19

CDPH Weekly SNF Infection Prevention Webinar  
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# MDRO Spread in the Setting of COVID-19

- Total reported *Candida auris* cases in California have **more than doubled** during May-June, 2020 (n=54)
  - Compared with March-April, 2020 (n=21)  
or January-February, 2020 (n=26)
- COVID-19 mitigation strategies might be contributing to *C. auris* and other MDRO spread
  - Personal protective equipment (PPE) conservation strategies
  - Cohorting

# Containment of MDRO Still a Priority in the Setting of COVID-19

- MDRO can cause serious infections with high morbidity and mortality in SNF population
- Consider MDRO status while implementing COVID-19 mitigation strategies
  - Personal protective equipment (PPE) conservation strategies
  - Cohorting

# Recommendations for MDRO Containment in the Setting of COVID-19

- Do not reuse gloves and gowns between patients with different (or unknown) MDRO and COVID-19 status
- Cohort patients by COVID-19 AND MDRO status, wherever possible
- PPE conservation strategies
  - Reserve gown use for high-contact care activities
  - Extended use of gowns **ONLY** when patients are known to have the same MDRO **AND** COVID-19 status, and when housed in the same room
  - Gowns may be saved and reused by multiple healthcare personnel (HCP) for the same patient.

# Request PPE Supplies

- Request additional PPE supplies through your Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC)
  - List of coordinators by county: <https://emsa.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/71/2020/05/MHOAC-Contact-List-05142020-Public.pdf>
- As of July 6, 2020, the state stockpile has ample supplies of gowns

# Remember Other MDRO Containment Strategies

- Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and shared medical equipment using an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered hospital-grade disinfectant
  - If your facility has residents with *C. auris* or at high-risk for *C. auris*, ensure the use of an EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectant effective against *C. auris* as well as COVID-19
- Upon discharge or transfer, communicate MDRO status of patient to any receiving healthcare facility
- Antibiotic stewardship continues to be an important measure to limit the emergence of MDRO
  - In SNF: limit unnecessary urine cultures and treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria

# Key Messages

- Concurrent COVID-19 and MDRO outbreaks are occurring and require extra vigilance and attention to prevent their spread and ensure the safety of residents and patients in our healthcare facilities.
- Additional PPE supplies are available to healthcare facilities through the MHOAC
- For more information about *C. auris*, visit the CDPH website:  
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/HAI/Pages/Candida-auris.aspx>