



PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The Multidrug-Resistant Organism (MDRO) Prevention Program is a subset of the Division of Healthcare-Associated Infection Prevention within the Bureau of Epidemiology at the PA Department of Health. The Prevention Program is designed around the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [Public Health Strategies to Prevent the Spread of Novel and Targeted MDROs](#). Prevention strategies are tailored to fit healthcare facility needs and the local epidemiology of novel and targeted MDROs. Prevention is intended to reduce transmission of MDROs at all stages of spread, ranging from before a target MDRO is identified in a region to managing endemicity. The goal of the MDRO Prevention Program is to partner with healthcare facilities across PA to enhance preparedness for the prevention of *Candida auris* and other MDROs.

WHICH FACILITIES CAN PARTICIPATE?

- ✓ Long-term Acute Care Hospitals*
- ✓ Ventilator-capable Skilled Nursing Facilities*
- ✓ Acute Care Hospitals+
- ✓ Skilled Nursing Facilities+

*Long-term Acute Care Hospitals and Ventilator-capable Skilled Nursing Facilities will be considered influential high priority facilities for MDRO Prevention efforts.

+ Acute Care Hospitals and Skilled Nursing Facilities will be considered highly connected facilities and may be eligible for MDRO Prevention efforts

WHY SHOULD YOUR FACILITY PARTICIPATE?

The MDRO Prevention Program would like to partner with your facility to enhance capacity for the prevention of *C. auris* in offering key prevention strategies. While we cannot prevent the occurrence of all *C. auris* cases, the strategies offered can prevent transmission of *C. auris* within healthcare facilities. The MDRO Prevention Program's strategies of focus include:

- ✓ **Education** – Our program will work with your facility to enhance knowledge and understanding of *C. auris* and infection control practices through toolkits, training activities, and other educational offerings in a variety of formats for ease of access and implementation.
- ✓ **Infection Control Assessment** – An infection control assessment is conducted by our program in partnership with your facility's infection preventionist or designee to identify infection control gaps and improve response to *C. auris* and other MDROs targeted for prevention.
- ✓ **Detection of *C. auris*** – Proactive colonization screenings and admission screenings for *C. auris* may be conducted in facilities as they can help ensure infection prevention and control practices are applied when needed to assist in prevention of transmission.
- ✓ **Enhance communication** – Our program can assist in building processes to enhance internal and external communication of MDRO status between facilities.



FAQS:

When should our facility contact the MDRO Prevention Team?

Contact the MDRO Prevention Team anytime your facility would be interested in partnering in key prevention strategies, such as education, infection control assessments, detection, or communication, to enhance preparedness of *C. auris*. The MDRO Prevention Team wants your facility to feel empowered to accept and care for patients with *C. auris*.

What is the difference between the MDRO Prevention Team and the Outbreak Response Team?

The MDRO Prevention Team focuses on proactive ways to prepare facilities to prevent transmission of *C. auris*, whereas the Outbreak Response Team focuses on containing an identified *C. auris* clinical or colonized case within a healthcare facility.

What is the difference between the MDRO Prevention team and PA Project Firstline?

PA Project Firstline (PA PFL) is designed to promote foundational knowledge on infection prevention and control for all types of frontline healthcare workers throughout hospitals, outpatient clinics, dialysis centers, and nursing homes. PA PFL offers educational resources in a variety of formats to meet the learning needs and preferences of the healthcare workforce. PFL is a great resource for general infection prevention and control teachings. To request a PA PFL training follow this link to the [PA PFL Training Request Form](#).

The MDRO Prevention team focuses on infection prevention and control as it relates to targeted MDROs, specifically *C. auris*. The MDRO Prevention team provides education in a variety of formats and targets educational activities towards infection preventionists and trainers within the healthcare facility.

There are times when your facility may work with both PA PFL and the MDRO Prevention Team, based on your facility's needs and preferences.

Will the MDRO Prevention Team focus on organisms other than *C. auris*?

Currently, the MDRO Prevention Team is focusing prevention efforts on *C. auris*. If a facility is prepared for *C. auris*, many of the skills and tools used in the prevention strategies can be leveraged for other MDROs of interest.

Our facility only wants to focus on educational offerings, and not participate in detection, can we still work with the MDRO Prevention Team?

Yes! Our key prevention efforts are most impactful when all areas are implemented but based on facility preference, we can accommodate requests to participate in select prevention efforts.