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Hardy Diagnostics Releases Enrichment Broth for *Candida auris* Detection Medium is based on the Centers for Disease Control recommended formulation

SANTA MARIA, CA, (7/16/24) –

Hardy Diagnostics is pleased to announce its latest product release in the battle to detect and identify *Candida auris* from skin and environmental samples. The medium is based on the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) formulation for Sabouraud Salt Dulcitol (SSD) Broth with chloramphenicol and gentamicin.

About *Candida auris*

Candida auris is an evolving fungal healthcare-associated pathogen that represents a serious multi-drug resistant (MDR) global threat. Though the organism often presents fewer virulence factors than *Candida albicans*, *C. auris* may persistently colonize the skin and hospital environment, making its transmission within and between healthcare settings more difficult to control^{1,2}.

C. auris fungemia results in a wide range of mortality rates (from 32%-66%), depending upon the patient's overall condition, underlying disease, geographic region, access to medical care, and age³. A review of the organism's genome demonstrates it harbors genes well-characterized as virulence factors in other *Candida* species, as well as genes for biofilm production and MDR transcription factors³.

Auris Enrichment Broth

Hardy Diagnostics' Auris Enrichment Broth is based on the [CDC formulation for Sabouraud Salt Dulcitol \(SSD\) Broth with Chloramphenicol and Gentamicin](#), as outlined by Welsh et al.⁴. The medium, sometimes referred to as Salt SAB Broth, maintains a lower pH to encourage the growth of fungal isolates. The broth contains dulcitol as the sole carbon source, and chloramphenicol and gentamicin as selective agents against unwanted bacterial growth. Peptones provide nitrogen and amino acids.

The CDC protocol recommends this broth for surveillance of *C. auris* from skin swabs and environmental samples⁵. Positive broth samples may be subcultured to chromogenic media, such as [HardyCHROM™ *Candida + auris* \(Cat. no. G343\)](#), for further identification. Suspect colonies with a teal-to-teal-green “bullseye” center will fluoresce on this chromogenic medium and can be confirmed on the MALDI-TOF.

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Environmental Persistence and Disinfection

C. auris may persist on environmental surfaces in healthcare settings and has been cultured from multiple locations in patient rooms. The organism exhibits some degree of tolerance to disinfectants, allowing it to survive on surfaces for greater than three weeks⁶. It can be found on high-touch surfaces near the patient's bedside, such as tables, rails, and carts; mobile or reusable equipment shared between patients such as blood pressure cuffs, glucometers, temperature probes, and ultrasound machines; and even on surfaces further away from the bedside such as windowsills⁵.

Environmental disinfection procedures should include routine cleaning and disinfection of patient rooms, as well as mobile and reusable equipment. Fungicidal disinfectants should be used following the manufacturer's directions. Environmental sampling may be useful in instances of outbreak investigations, surveillance, or to determine the reservoirs of ongoing transmission.

Find more information on [Auris Enrichment Broth here](#).

References

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2. Isenberg, H.D. Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook, Vol. I, II & III. American Society for Microbiology, Washington, D.C.
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4. Welsh RM, Bentz ML, Shams A, Houston H, Lyons A, Rose LJ, Litvintseva AP. 2017. Survival, persistence, and isolation of the emerging multi-drug resistant pathogenic yeast *Candida auris* on a plastic healthcare surface. *J Clin Microbiol* 55:2996–3005.
5. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Screening for *Candida auris* colonization in healthcare settings: [CDC Screening](#)
6. Dire O., A. Ahmad, S. Duze, M. Patel. Survival of *Candida auris* on environmental surface materials and low-level resistance to disinfectant. 2023. *J. Hosp. Infect.* 137:17-23.

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ABOUT HARDY DIAGNOSTICS

[Hardy Diagnostics](#) is an FDA-licensed manufacturer of medical devices for microbiological testing with an ISO 13485 certified Quality Management System. Hardy Diagnostics manufactures 2,700 products, distributes more than 13,000 products, offers services to more than 10,000 laboratories, exports products to over 80 foreign distributors, and maintains a network of nine distribution centers throughout the United States. Hardy Diagnostics supports the microbiology needs of clinical, pharmaceutical, cosmetics and personal care, as well as the food and beverage industries. The company is 100% owned by the employees who work there. Serving laboratory scientists since 1980, Hardy Diagnostics' mission is to *“produce and distribute the finest products for the detection of microorganisms and partner with its laboratory customers to diagnose and prevent disease.”*

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