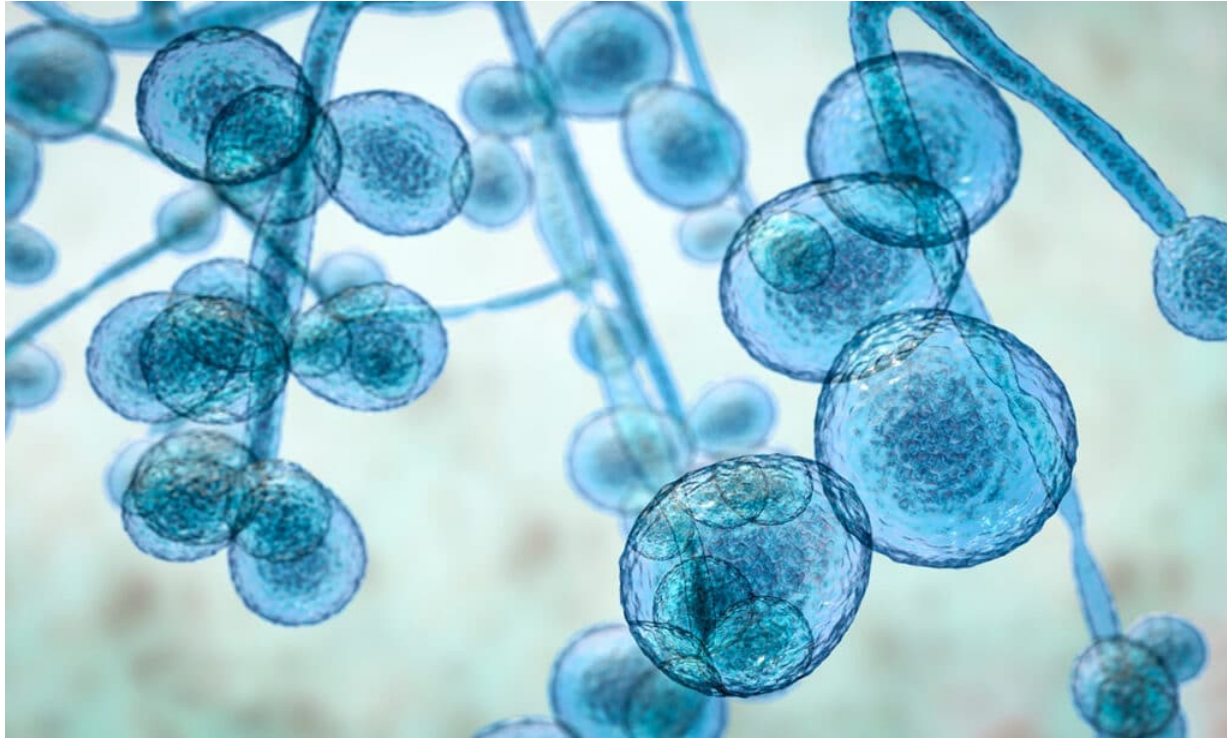


C. auris: An emerging healthcare threat



CANDIDA auris is a multidrug-resistant yeast that's increasingly recognised as a serious healthcare-associated infection. While it's unlikely to present directly in general practice, awareness is important - especially when managing patients recently discharged from hospital or transferring to care homes.

Cases in England continue to

rise, with clusters mainly in London and the South-East. C. auris is concerning due to its resistance to treatment, potential for outbreaks, and difficulty to identify in standard labs.

At-risk individuals include those with prolonged hospital stays, ICU admission, invasive devices, immunosuppression, or recent broad-spectrum antibiotic use. It can cause bloodstream

infections, sepsis, wound and ear infections - often with fever or chills not responding to antibiotics.

If you suspect colonisation or infection, or are caring for someone recently in hospital or from an affected facility, flag with the [ICB IPC team](#) or [local health protection team](#).

More: www.gov.uk/government/collections/candida-auris

Useful stuff

Pop in for a chat about IPC

OUR IPC nurses will be available online for you to ask any IPC-related questions on Wednesday 11 June, between 2pm -4pm. [Click here to access via MSTeams.](#)

How did we do?

LET us have your feedback if you have recently received a support visit from one of the IPC team. Please provide any comments/feedback using this [link](#). Responses are anonymous.

Glow box for training

THE IPC team hold a hand hygiene glow box which providers can borrow for in-house hand hygiene training sessions.

[Email the team in-box](#) to request it.

The glow box can be collected directly from Wynford House, Yeovil (we appreciate this being returned after your training session).

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Training Opportunities

e-Learning for Healthcare (eLfH) – IPC Level 1 & 2 Free for NHS Staff

These online modules cover core IPC topics including:

- Hand hygiene
 - Personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Environmental cleaning
 - Standard infection control precautions
- [Infection prevention and control: community - elearning for healthcare](#)

ARE you an IPC Link Nurse or Lead in general practice? Enhance your knowledge and meet compliance standards with these structured training resources. Whether you're new to the role or looking to refresh your skills, check out the following training options below.

Skills for Health – IPC Level 2 (CPD Accredited) Formal Qualification

Ideal for those seeking accredited IPC credentials with a practical focus on primary care roles.

[Infection Prevention and Control | Info Hub | Resources | Skills for Health](#)

Royal College of Nursing (RCN) – IPC Learning Hub For Primary Care Nurses

Access expert-led:

- Webinars
 - Guidance documents
 - Professional development tools
- [RCN - Home | Royal College of Nursing](#)

Incident Reporting via DATIX for General Practice teams

WE'VE seen ongoing issues with under-reporting from general practice into the DATIX system, which limits our ability to identify and respond to system-wide infection prevention and control (IPC) concerns.

While we recognise many practices use their own internal systems, it's essential that any incidents with IPC implications are also logged on DATIX. This enables the ICB to identify themes, monitor trends, and take coordinated action across the system.

How to report:

- If your system does not automatically feed into DATIX, please use the [reporting link available on the ICB intranet or website](#).

- Ensure reports are complete and submitted in a timely manner.

Incidents requiring escalation or immediate support should also be flagged with your IPC lead or ICB contact.

Why it matters:

- DATIX reporting ensures we have oversight of IPC issues at scale.

- It supports compliance, audit, learning, and improvement.

It allows the ICB to support practices more effectively and allocate resources where needed.

Please ensure all relevant staff are aware of the process and that local protocols align with this requirement. Accurate, timely reporting is vital to maintaining safe, high-quality care across our system.



Avoiding heatstroke in summer temperatures

CLIMATE change is causing warmer temperatures in the UK.

It is estimated that 2,803 people aged 65 years and over died due to the heat in England in 2022, and it is predicted that the number of heat-related deaths per year may triple by 2050.

Hot weather can increase the risk of heart attack, stroke, and lung problems.

Older people, babies and young children are more likely to be unwell from hot weather because their bodies are less able to regulate temperature.

People with underlying medical conditions can also be vulnerable.

Heat exhaustion occurs when the body overheats and cannot cool down.

Common symptoms of **heat exhaustion** include:

- tiredness
- weakness
- feeling faint

- headache
- muscle cramps
- feeling or being sick
- heavy sweating
- intense thirst

Heat exhaustion does not usually require emergency medical attention if you are able to cool down within 30 minutes.

How to cool down:

- Move to a cooler place such as a room with air conditioning or somewhere in the shade
- Remove all unnecessary clothing like jackets or socks
- Drink cool water, a sports or rehydration drink, or eat cold and water-rich food like ice lollies
- Apply cool water by spray or sponge to exposed skin, and using cold packs wrapped in a cloth and put under the armpits or on the neck.

If you do not take action to cool down, this can lead to heatstroke.

Heatstroke is where the body is no longer able to cool down and the body temperature becomes dangerously high.

Common symptoms of **heatstroke** include:

- confusion
- lack of co-ordination
- fast heartbeat
- fast breathing or shortness of breath
- hot skin that is not sweating
- seizures

Heatstroke is a medical emergency

If you think someone has heatstroke you should dial 999 and then try to cool them down.

You can find out more about symptoms of heat exhaustion and [heatstroke on NHS.UK](#).

UKHSA 'beat the heat' and resources [available here](#)