



MARK A. REFOWITZ  
DIRECTOR

RICHARD SANCHEZ  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

ERIC G. HANDLER, MD, MPH, FAAP  
DEPUTY AGENCY DIRECTOR/  
HEALTH OFFICER

MAILING ADDRESS:  
1719 W 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
SANTA ANA, CA 92706

TELEPHONE: (714) 834-8180  
FAX: (714) 834-8196

## COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

July 5, 2016

Dear Laboratory Director:

Antimicrobial resistance is a serious and growing public health problem. In order to better understand this issue and prevent the spread of infectious disease in our County, the Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA) is adding laboratory reports of certain antibiotic-resistant bacteria of public health significance to our County's List of Reportable Diseases. Effective July 5, 2016, by authority of the Health Officer under California Health and Safety Code section 120175 and California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Sections 2500 and 2505, hospital laboratories and commercial laboratories receiving specimens from hospitals and skilled nursing facilities are hereby ordered to report all positive laboratory results for the following multidrug resistant organism (MDRO) organisms:

- ✓ All *Enterobacteriaceae* that produce extended spectrum beta-lactamases (ESBLs)
- ✓ All Carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE)
- ✓ Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) from admitted patients

Laboratory results from specimens sent both for diagnostic and screening surveillance purposes that fit the following criteria are to be reported to the Orange County Health Care Agency:

- 1) MRSA (by culture or PCR)
- 2) *E. coli*, *Klebsiella* spp, and *Enterobacter* spp that are antibiotic-resistant according to ANY of the following criteria:
  - ✓ *E. coli* or *Klebsiella* spp designated as an ESBL-producer by an established testing method
  - ✓ *E. coli*, *Klebsiella* spp, and *Enterobacter* spp. intermediate or resistant to 3<sup>rd</sup> generation cephalosporins according to current CLSI guidance (below):
    - *E coli* and *Klebsiella* spp. - either disk diffusion  $\leq 22\text{mm}$  or MICs  $\geq 2 \mu\text{g/ml}$  for ceftazidime, aztreonam, cefotaxime or ceftriaxone, or  $\geq 8 \mu\text{g/ml}$  for cefpodoxime
    - *Enterobacter* spp. isolates with MIC  $\geq 2 \text{mcg/mL}$  for cefotaxime or ceftriaxone, OR  $\geq 4 \text{mcg/mL}$  for cefpodoxime OR  $\geq 8 \text{mcg/mL}$  for ceftazidime or aztreonam
- 3) *E. coli*, *Klebsiella* species, and *Enterobacter* species that are resistant to any carbapenem according to ANY of the following criteria:
  - ✓ MIC of  $\geq 4 \mu\text{g/ml}$  for doripenem, imipenem or meropenem or  $\geq 2 \mu\text{g/ml}$  for ertapenem
  - ✓ Production of a carbapenemase (e.g., KPC, NDM, VIM, IMP, OXA-48) demonstrated using a recognized test (e.g., metallo-beta-lactamase test, modified Hodge test, Carba-NP test, ROSCO discs)
  - ✓ Presence of a carbapenemase gene (e.g. gene encoding KPC, NDM, VIM, IMP, OXA-48) demonstrated using a recognized test (e.g., PCR)

Facilities are directed to forward a list of the above laboratory results to OCHCA every 2 to 4 weeks. Laboratories are encouraged to contact the Orange County Health Care Agency at 714-834-8180 for questions or for more information on arranging this process.



Eric Handler, MD, MPH  
Health Officer



Matt Zahn, MD  
Medical Director  
Epidemiology and Assessment