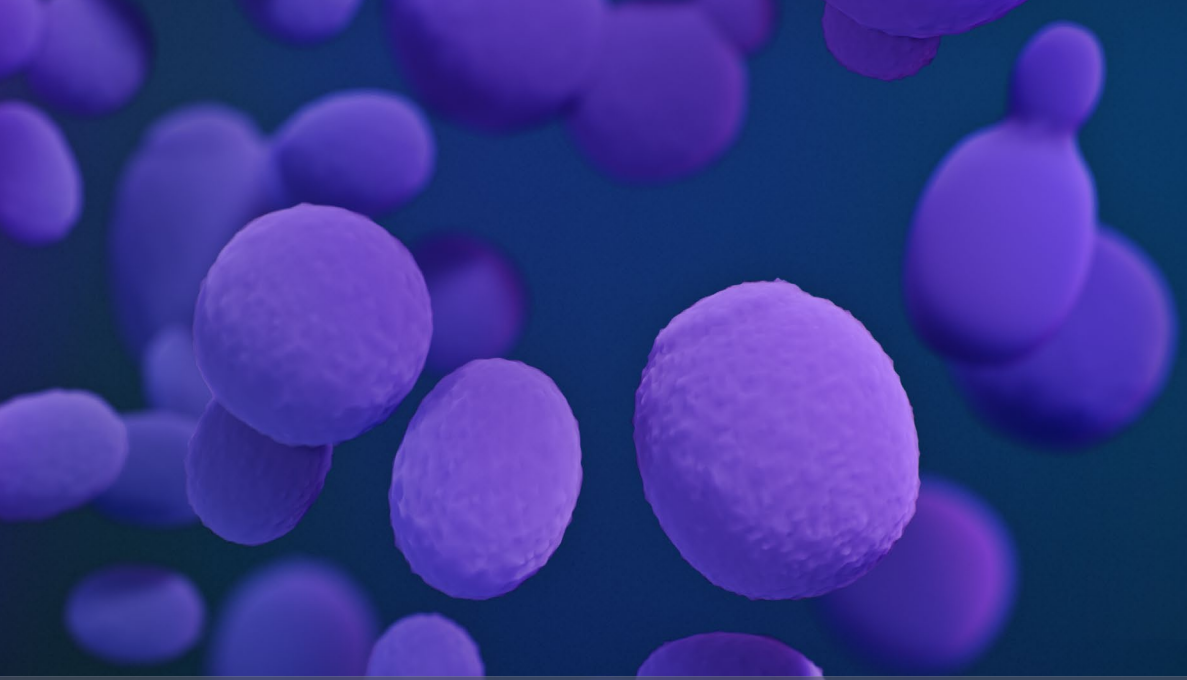


DRUG-RESISTANT *CANDIDA* SPECIES

THREAT LEVEL **SERIOUS**

34,800
Estimated cases in hospitalized patients in 2017

1,700
Estimated deaths in 2017

Dozens of *Candida* species—a group of fungi—cause infections, ranging from mild oral and vaginal yeast infections to severe invasive infections. Many are resistant to the antifungals used to treat them.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

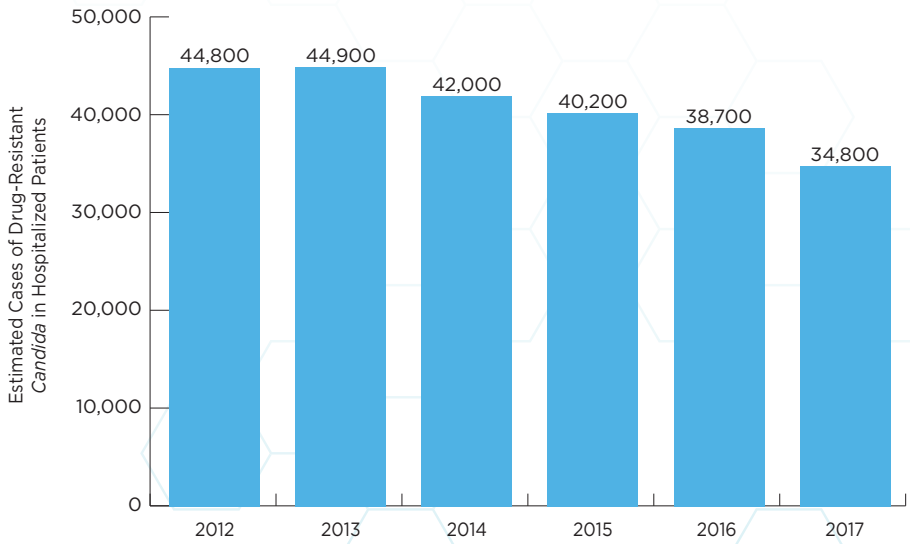
- Only three classes of antifungal drugs are available to treat severe *Candida* infections: azoles, echinocandins, and amphotericin B.
- *Candida* species commonly cause bloodstream infections in hospitalized patients. About one in four of these patients die.
- *Candida* species also cause common yeast infections, which can affect the mouth, skin, and vagina, resulting in more than 3.6 million U.S. healthcare visits each year, and $3 billion estimated direct medical costs.
- Antibiotics used to treat bacterial infections increase the risk of *Candida* infections.

All data represented excludes *C. auris.*

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CASES OVER TIME

Resistant *Candida* are commonly detected in hospitalized patients. About 7% of bloodstream infections are resistant to antifungals.



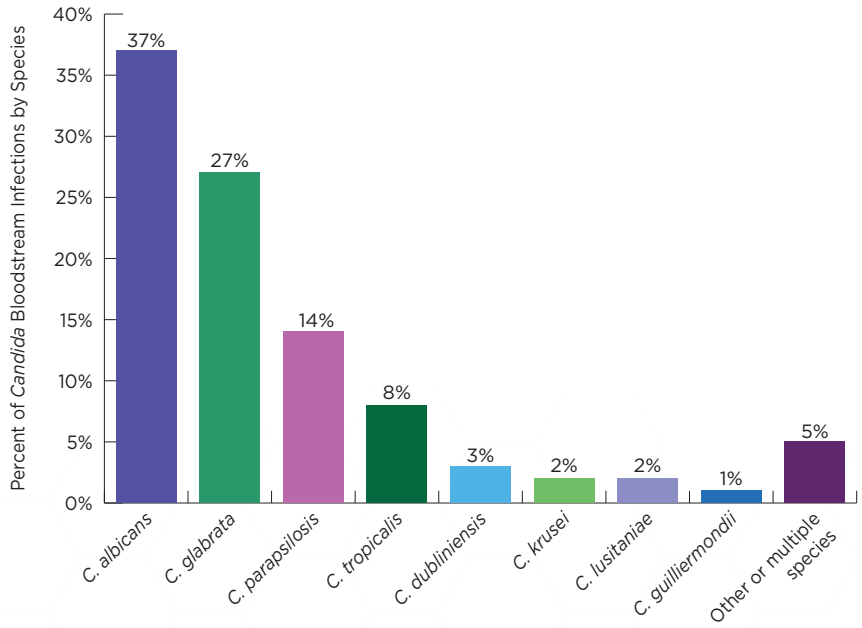
DIFFICULT TO DETECT THREAT

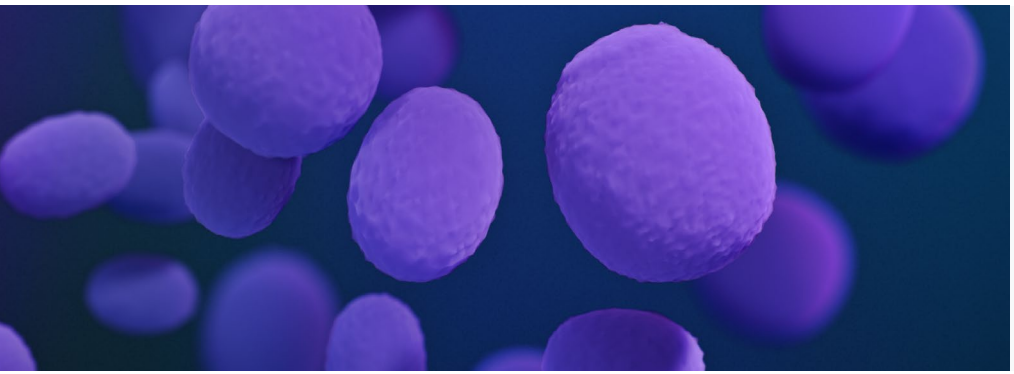
Candida species are well known for causing infections in our mouth, skin, and vagina, but these germs are also a common cause of life-threatening bloodstream infections in hospitals. Most *Candida* infections in people are caused by *Candida albicans,* which has very low levels of drug resistance. However, other types of *Candida,* including *Candida glabrata,* are frequently resistant and more deadly.

Many clinical laboratories do not have the capacity to test *Candida* for drug resistance, limiting the ability to guide treatment and track resistance. Additionally, new, highly resistant species, such as *Candida auris,* are emerging and can also be difficult to identify. CDC's Antibiotic Resistance Laboratory Network helps clinical labs across the United States identify emerging *Candida* species and test for antifungal resistance. This helps lab professionals and healthcare providers rapidly and correctly identify the threat and stop its spread.

BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS

Candida species are a common cause of bloodstream infections and can be drug-resistant and difficult to treat.





ONLINE RESOURCES

About *Candida* infections
www.cdc.gov/fungal/diseases/candidiasis/index.html

About antifungal resistance
www.cdc.gov/fungal/antifungal-resistance.html

This fact sheet is part of CDC's 2019 Antibiotic Resistance Threats Report.
The full report, including data sources, is available at www.cdc.gov/DrugResistance/Biggest-Threats.html.

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