

When to suspect *Candida auris*

C. auris can be misidentified as many different organisms when using traditional phenotypic methods for yeast identification. The table below summarizes common misidentifications by method, based on data from the Centers for Disease Prevention & Control (CDC).

If any species listed below is **identified using a method it is listed next to, or if species identity cannot be determined**, further characterization using appropriate methodology should be sought.

See the [C. auris Reference Lab List](#) on the LAC DPH website for more information.

LAC DPH can assist with confirmatory testing, if needed.

Identification Method	Organism <i>C. auris</i> can be misidentified as (“presumptive organism”)
bioMerieux VITEK MS MALDI-TOF [^]	<i>Candida haemulonii</i> <i>Candida lusitanae</i>
Vitek 2 YST [‡]	<i>Candida haemulonii</i> <i>Candida duobushaemulonii</i>
API 20C	<i>Rhodotorula glutinis</i> (characteristic red color not present) <i>Candida sake</i>
API ID 32C	<i>Candida intermedia</i> <i>Candida sake</i> <i>Saccharomyces kluyveri</i>
BD Phoenix yeast identification system	<i>Candida catenulata</i> <i>Candida haemulonii</i>
MicroScan	<i>Candida famata</i> <i>Candida guilliermondii</i> * <i>Candida lusitanae</i> * <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> *
RapID Yeast Plus	<i>Candida parapsilosis</i> *
Bruker Biotyper MALDI-TOF	No known misidentifications if using CA System library Version Claim 4 or newer
GenMark ePlex BCID-FP Panel	No known misidentifications
<i>If your lab uses a yeast identification method not listed anywhere in the table, contact LAC DPH (hai@ph.lacounty.gov; 213-482-4856) for guidance regarding possible misidentifications.</i>	

[^]If using IVD library older than v3.2 [‡]If using a software version older than 8.01

**C. guilliermondii*, *C. lusitanae*, and *C. parapsilosis* generally make pseudohyphae on cornmeal agar. If hyphae or pseudohyphae are not present on cornmeal agar, this should raise suspicion for *C. auris* as *C. auris* typically does not make hyphae or pseudohyphae. However, some *C. auris* isolates have formed hyphae or pseudohyphae. Therefore, it would be prudent to consider any *C. guilliermondii*, *C. lusitanae*, and *C. parapsilosis* isolates identified on MicroScan or any *C. parapsilosis* isolates identified on RapID Yeast Plus as possible *C. auris* isolates and forward them for further identification.

These recommendations may change as CDC learns more about misidentification of *C. auris*. Visit www.cdc.gov/fungal/candida-auris/recommendations.html for the most updated information.

The recommendations above are current as of 3/30/2021