



**LAC DPH Health Information:
New Health Officer Order – Health Facilities
to Report Carbapenem-Resistant
Enterobacteriaceae and Antimicrobial
Resistance**



January 19, 2017

This notification is to inform Los Angeles health care providers of a new Health Officer order. All affected health care facilities will receive detailed communications and guidance regarding this mandate and its implementation.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) Interim Health Officer has mandated that all Los Angeles County acute care hospitals and skilled nursing facilities report all clinical laboratory carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE) positive tests from any specimen. The order also requires that acute care hospitals, and skilled nursing facilities that generate an annual antibiogram, submit it to LACDPH each year.

CRE, defined as *Enterobacteriaceae* (*Klebsiella sp.*, *E. coli*, and *Enterobacter sp.*) resistant to carbapenem antibiotics or that produce carbapenemases, are a persistent and growing public health threat. These healthcare-associated pathogens are difficult to treat, have a high mortality rate, and are easily spread between patients in health care facilities. The mandate is a necessary step to control the spread of this healthcare-associated infection.

To read the Health Officer order visit
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/Diseases/CRE.htm>.

This Health Information was sent by Dr. Benjamin Schwartz, Acting Chief, Acute Communicable Disease Program, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

To view this and other communications or to sign-up to receive LAHANs, please visit
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/lahan>.