

# Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales (CRE) Patient testing information sheet

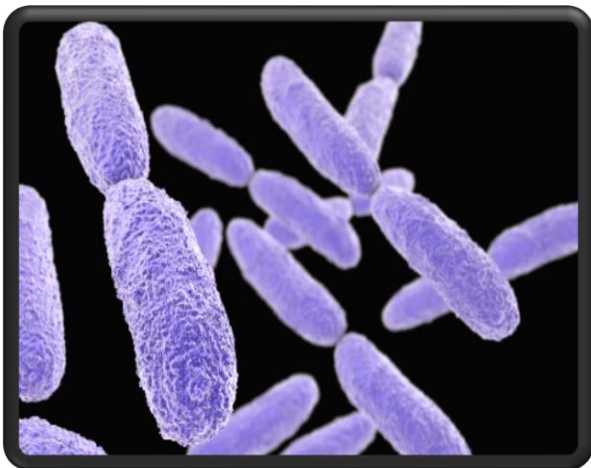
Enterobacterales is a large group of many different bacteria (germs). Many of them live in the digestive tract without causing problems, but they can cause infections in other parts of the body, such as the lungs, blood or urine. Carbapenem-resistant enterobacterales (CRE) are resistant to many medicines used for treatment. People who are infected with this germ can spread it to other people or onto nearby objects.

## Why am I being tested for CRE?

You may have come into contact with this germ in this or another facility. You may be carrying CRE on your body even if you don't have symptoms. This is called colonization. Fortunately, most people who carry CRE do not get sick from it and do not need treatment. Testing people in hospitals and nursing homes that may have come into contact with CRE helps health care providers take steps to prevent it from spreading to others.

## Why is CRE a problem?

- CRE can cause serious infections
- CRE is resistant to most medicines, which makes it difficult to treat
- CRE can spread easily in hospitals and nursing homes



## What should I expect from testing?

- A nurse will insert and briefly rotate the tip of a cotton swab inside your rectum to collect a sample. You may experience mild discomfort, but the test is not painful and should not cause side effects.

Your test results may take a few days. Your health care provider will talk to you about your results and what to do next.

# Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales (CRE) Testing consent form

Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacterales (CRE) is a group of many different bacteria (germs) that is resistant to many medications and can spread easily in hospitals and nursing homes. Your health care facility tests individuals who may have come into contact with this germ so they can stop it from spreading to others. Getting tested will benefit you and others in your facility, but you can choose not to be tested. Talk to your nurse or doctor if you have any questions or concerns about testing.

Sample collection will include:

- Rectal swab

The following should be completed by the patient or their authorized representative:

- I have received information on CRE and the test being performed, including any potential risks and had an opportunity to ask questions.
- I understand testing is completely free. Patients will not be charged.
- Testing may be repeated at regular intervals to confirm the germ is not spreading.

Select one:

- I consent to testing
- I do not consent to testing

For myself, [ \_\_\_\_\_ ], OR  
patient name

On behalf of [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] by [ \_\_\_\_\_ ]  
patient name authorized representative

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

The authorized representative (see above) consented to testing by telephone to

[ \_\_\_\_\_ ] on [ \_\_\_\_\_ ].  
person who obtained consent date