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**SMALL BUSINESS**

# Deadly Fungus Spreading Through U.S. – CDC Says 2,377 Cases

The infection rate has increased 95% in 3 years for the Candida auris, or C. auris — a potentially deadly and drug-resistant fungal infection, according to the CDC.

Mar. 20, 2023



Credit: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - CDC.

*David Matthews, New York Daily News (via TNS).*

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warned Monday that cases of *Candida auris*, or *C. auris* — a potentially deadly and drug-resistant fungal infection — are on the rise at U.S. health-care facilities.

New CDC data published in the journal *Annals of Internal Medicine* showed that the number of infections has grown since it was first detected in the U.S. in 2013. The rate has increased rapidly in recent years, however.

There were 756 reported cases in 2020 and 1,471 reported cases in 2021 — a 95% increase. According to preliminary CDC data, from January to December 2022, the U.S. reported 2,377 cases and 5,754 screening cases.

*C. auris* infections often cause no symptoms among healthy people, but can lead to serious complications among individuals with weakened immune systems, especially those who are hospitalized or in nursing homes. The complications can

affect the blood, heart, brain, eyes, bones and other parts of the body, according to the CDC.

About one third of patients who have “invasive” infections die. Given the difficulty treating the condition, *C. auris* is considered one the worst fungal threats public health officials face, according to [World Health Organization rankings](#).

In the meantime, experts say methods of diagnosing *C. auris* infections as well as methods of preventing its spread among patients have improved dramatically.

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