GREATER NEW YORK HEALTH CARE FACILITIES ASSOCIATION

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Memo 25-17

To: Administrator, DNS, Medical Director, Facilities Management, Infection Preventionist and QA Committee

From: Mary Gracey-White RN, Director of Regulatory Compliance and Arlette A Drigpaul, MSN RN Infection Preventionist/Education Coordinator

Date: June 12,2025

Re: NYSDOH Updates: Multidrug Resistant Organisms (MDROs) and Emergency Preparedness

As you may already be aware, on June 9, 2025, the NYS Department of Health released a Health Advisory (here) regarding multidrug resistant organisms (MDROs), including Carbapenemase-producing Organisms (CPOs) and *Candida auris* (*C. auris*). The Department has identified increasing detections of both organisms across the state. Both CPOs and *C. auris* have an increased potential to cause outbreaks and are associated with high mortality rates. We recommend that you review your facility's policies for preventing and controlling the spread of infections, including standard and transmission-based precautions, enhanced barrier precautions, hand hygiene, use of personal protective equipment, cleaning and disinfection of equipment and the environment. Ensure that there is a dedicated Infection Preventionist who has completed an infection prevention and control training in charge of the IPC program. When a resident is identified as having infection or asymptomatic colonization with *C. auris* or CDC-targeted CPOs, follow CDC guidelines for prevention and control strategies. Have a system in place for notifying the local health department and receiving facilities if residents are to be transferred.

Additionally, on June 11, 2025, the Department released a DAL regarding Emergency Preparedness (here) to ensure facilities are aware of the responsibilities to ensure compliance with disaster and emergency preparedness requirements outlined in regulation at 10 NYCRR § 415.26(f) including have an up-to-date Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). The Department strongly encourages the facility administrator and emergency response coordinator(s), to take the training course on how to complete the CEMP annually. Also outlined in the DAL is the importance of Facilities ensuring that eFINDS equipment, roles in the HCS and responsibilities are assigned. NYSDOH indicated they will monitor compliance on emergency preparedness including the CEMP and eFinds via quality and surveillance activities.

Please be reminded that the Healthcare Personnel Influenza Vaccination Report must be electronically submitted to the New York State Department of Health by Friday, June 27, 2025. The report may be accessed on the Health Electronic Response Data System at https://commerce.health.state.ny.us/.