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NPHL ALERT

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Recently changes were made to the Specimen Guidelines section of the [CRE/CRPA/CRAB Supplemental Form](#). Laboratories that perform microbiological testing should print the document and have a copy available in the laboratory. Laboratories that use NUlirt can also use this as a guide. Laboratories that use paper requisitions should include this form with the isolate and a copy of the antimicrobial susceptibility report.

Below are the updated submission guidelines. A change to the guidelines is the addition to *Klebsiella aerogenes* to the Exceptions section. The change is highlighted below.

Phenotypic Detection of Carbapenemase (MCIMAR)

Guidelines:

- A fresh subculture (<18 hours) is optimal to avoid a delay in testing.
- Submit isolates of *Enterobacteriales*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and/or *Acinetobacter baumannii* that are non-susceptible (intermediate or resistant) to carbapenems as follows:
 - *Enterobacteriales*: Ertapenem MIC ≥ 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ or meropenem MIC ≥ 2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ or imipenem MIC ≥ 2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ or non-susceptible by the disc diffusion method (see rare exceptions below)
 - *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*: Meropenem or imipenem MIC ≥ 4 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, or non-susceptible by the disc diffusion method and non-susceptible to both cefepime and ceftazidime MIC ≥ 16 $\mu\text{g/mL}$
 - *Acinetobacter baumannii*: Doripenem ≥ 4 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, or imipenem ≥ 4 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, or meropenem ≥ 4 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, or non-susceptible by the disc diffusion method
 - Submit all isolates of in-house or reference laboratory confirmed carbapenemase-producing *Enterobacteriales* (CPE), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (CP-PA) and/or *Acinetobacter baumannii* (CP-CRAB)
- Exceptions: DO NOT submit the following isolates
 - *Proteus* species, *Providencia* species, *Morganella morganii* or *Klebsiella aerogenes* that are non-susceptible only to imipenem but susceptible to meropenem and ertapenem
 - *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* that are mucoid or from cystic fibrosis patients

If there are any questions regarding these guidelines, contact us at (402) 559-9444.

Thank you,

Nebraska Public Health Laboratory