Call for Cases: Burkholderia cepacia complex (Bcc) Urinary and Bloodstream Infections Following Ultrasound-Guided Procedures

Date: October 14, 2026

Public Health Message Type: ☐ Alert ☒ Advisory ☐ Update ☐ Information

Intended Audience: ☒ All public health partners ☒ Healthcare providers ☒ Infection preventionists
☒ Local health departments ☐ Schools/childcare centers ☐ACOs
☐ Animal health professionals ☐ Other:

Summary

Burkholderia cepacia complex (Bcc) comprises a group of closely related gram-negative bacteria found in environmental sources, including soil and water, that have been associated with healthcare outbreaks. In September 2026, a jurisdiction notified CDC of a cluster of Bcc urinary tract and bloodstream infections following transrectal ultrasound-guided prostate biopsies performed at multiple urology clinics during July − September 2026. Available isolates were subsequently identified as *Burkholderia contaminans*. **CDC seeks to identify potentially related cases in other jurisdictions.**

- **Report any case that meets the following criteria to DOH.CDS.HAIAR.EPI@doh.nj.gov:**
    - Newly diagnosed Bcc infection confirmed by culture from **blood** or **urine** (including isolates reported as *B. contaminans* or Bcc without species-level identification); AND
    - Specimen collected on or after **April 1, 2026**; AND
    - **Transrectal ultrasound-guided prostate biopsy**, or another **endocavitary ultrasound-guided procedure** involving biopsy, aspiration, or needle penetration of underlying tissue, performed on or after **April 1, 2026**, and **before** collection of the positive blood or urine specimen.
    - Please include available information regarding the procedure, including procedure type, procedure date, healthcare setting where the procedure was performed, and aqueous products used during the procedure (e.g., ultrasound gel, lubricating jelly) with manufacturer name, lot number, and expiration date. **Please retain patient isolates for possible submission to CDC for laboratory testing.**

As a reminder, healthcare providers should report infections that might be associated with a medical product to FDA's MedWatch Program and to the product manufacturer. Of note, this reporting is not limited to the case-finding period specified above.

Contact Information:

Healthcare Associated Infections & Antimicrobial Resistance (HAI/AR) Unit
Infection Control, Healthcare, & Environmental Epidemiology Program
Communicable Disease Service
New Jersey Department of Health
DOH.CDS.HAIAR.EPI@doh.nj.gov