

Local Health Department Letterhead

Date

XXX, XXX MD

Address

City, OR Zip

Phone, Fax

Dear Dr. XXXX,

This letter is to inform you that your patient **First name, Last name** (DOB: XX/XX/XXXX) had a culture positive for carbapenem-resistant *Enterobacteriaceae* (CRE). CRE is considered a multidrug-resistant organism of public health significance, and was reported to the Oregon Health Authority Acute and Communicable Diseases Program (OAR 333-018-0000, OAR 333-018-0015, ORS 433.004-433.008).

We have included organism-specific recommendations for you and your patient.

The *Enterobacteriaceae* are a large family of Gram-negative bacilli, living in the human gastrointestinal tract, and include *E. coli*, *Klebsiella* spp., and *Enterobacter* spp. CRE have acquired resistance to carbapenem antibiotics, an important class of broad-spectrum antibiotics. People at risk for CRE infections are those with chronic medical conditions, frequent or prolonged stays in healthcare settings, invasive medical devices such as central venous and urinary catheters, and exposure to antibiotics.

CRE have been rare in Oregon and we'd like to keep it that way. We have instituted the Drug-Resistant Organism Prevention Coordinated Regional Epidemiology network (DROP-CRE), a statewide network to rapidly detect, respond to, and prevent CRE. One component is notification of healthcare providers of their patient's isolate of CRE, in order to inform medical care, as necessary.

For more information, contact us or go to OHA's CRE website and review the CRE toolkit:  
<http://public.health.oregon.gov/DiseasesConditions/DiseasesAZ/Pages/disease.aspx?did=108>.

Sincerely,

LHD signature

Encl: Patient Education Sheet, Provider Education Sheet (TBD)