

Carbapenemase Producing Organism (CPO) Patient/Resident Responsive Screening Verbal Consent Script

A bacteria (a kind of germ) has been identified in one of our patients/residents. It is normal for people to carry this kind of bacteria in their gut or stool. But this germ is resistant to important antibiotics that are used to treat infections.

The chance that you carry this germ is very low, and most people who have it don't get sick. If you do have it and get an infection, it can be very difficult to treat. So, it is important to know if you have it.

Because of this antibiotic resistance, the health department recommends that we identify if anyone else has it. That is why we are testing residents/patients on this unit today.

There is no cost to you for the test. The test is not painful and is done by collecting a swab from your rectum. To collect the swab, a "Q-tip" will be gently inserted into the opening of your rectum, gently rotated, and removed.

The test results will take about a week. If the test is positive, we will share that information with you. Is it ok for me to get a swab now?

Note: If the patient/resident is reluctant to have someone collect the swab, it is acceptable for them to collect the swab themselves. Please provide collection instructions.

If the patient/resident declines the test, it may be helpful to ask them about their concerns. Reluctance can often be overcome by providing simple additional information.