

Real-time PCR reagents available to detect *Candida auris*, *Candida* species, and *C. auris* with fluconazole resistance

Candida auris detection reagents are commercially available for use in clinical and research laboratories

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Scott Johnston

(EGMDx) announced availability of their *Candida auris* family of products, including reagents for *C. auris* detection, a multiplex of seven *Candida* pathogens, and *C. auris* with fluconazole resistance. This suite of real-time PCR products includes analyte specific reagents (ASR) and research use only (RUO) materials used by clinical and research laboratories.

The EGMDx product portfolio includes:

- DSQ Alert™ *Candida auris* primer and probe ASRs*, for specific detection of *C. auris*
- MGB Alert® *Candida auris* with fluconazole resistance RUO** Detection Reagent
- MGB Alert® *Candida* species with *C. auris* RUO** Detection Reagent, for detection and discrimination of seven *Candida* species in a multiplex format

EGMDx initially released their *Candida* product family in February 2023. Product development efforts accelerated in response to a November 2022 publication from the World Health Organization, the [WHO Fungal Priority Pathogens List](#). The WHO publication urges detection and surveillance for *Candida* pathogens and antifungal resistance.

In March 2023, the [Centers for Disease Control published a warning](#) in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* that cites a dramatic increase in the spread of *C. auris* between 2019 and 2021. The number of *C. auris* infections increased by 59%, to 756, from 2019 to 2020 and then by an additional 95%, to 1,471, in 2021. Findings state that *C. auris* has now been found in more than half of U.S. states. The CDC publication highlights the need for improved detection and infection control practices to prevent the spread of *C. auris*.

[Up to 95%](#) of all invasive *Candida* infections in the United States are caused by five species of *Candida*: *C. albicans*, *C. glabrata*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. tropicalis*, and *C. krusei*.. These five species

and two additional targets, *C. auris* and *C. dubliniensis*, are detectable using the new *Candida* species multiplex from EGMDx.

EGMDx is an innovative company that realizes the need for flexibility and versatility to optimize lab infrastructure and capacity. The release of their *Candida* family of products has been anticipated by many hospital laboratories, including lab partners involved in developing the products. "Our *Candida auris* family of reagents is compatible with many open channel systems and can help optimize molecular lab equipment," said Scott Johnston, General Manager. Johnston added, "We're proud to have an agile team that can quickly respond to clinical and public health needs."

EGMDx reagents are compatible with the company's proprietary ELITE BeGenius® automated sample to result platform, in addition to third party open channel instrument systems. The company is a dedicated molecular diagnostics manufacturer offering reagents and instrument systems to detect infectious diseases.

Please visit www.elitechgroup.com/molecular-diagnostics-us to learn more.

*Analyte Specific Reagent. Analytical and performance characteristics are not established.

**For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

About ELITechGroup MDx LLC

ELITechGroup MDx serves the needs of clinical and research laboratories alike, offering an extensive range of molecular diagnostics products, including the fully automated sample-to-result ELITE BeGenius® and ELITE InGenius® instruments and a growing menu of infectious disease tests and reagents featuring innovative chemistries to optimize sensitivity and specificity. MGB Alert products utilize the original minor groove binder probe technology and offer the flexibility of PCR-based detection or melt curve analysis. DSQ Alert products feature the duplex stabilizing quencher, the latest evolution of hydrolysis probe-based real-time PCR. Other proprietary chemistries designed for optimum product performance include the original azo dye Eclipse® Dark Quencher, AquaPhluor® fluorescent dyes, and nucleotide Superbases™.

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