



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -
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UPDATE FROM PREVIOUS RELEASE

Health Department Reports Current TB Investigation

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The Cumberland County Health Department began an investigation on a suspected case of tuberculosis (TB) on Feb. 7. This exposure is likely to have affected a very small number of individuals. The department is working to contact individuals who may have been exposed and to ensure that they receive appropriate testing and treatment.

Currently, the Health Department is following the case according to the North Carolina TB Control Program protocols.

“While it is important for the community to be aware of this exposure, a relatively small number of people are likely to have been exposed, and no one is in immediate risk of any health problems,” said Health Director Buck Wilson.

“It is our understanding that the individual is employed by a restaurant. We are investigating this suspected case of TB by skin testing those individuals who may have been exposed. At this time, notification has been provided to those who are in need of a skin test,” Wilson said.

TB is a disease that generally develops over weeks to months, and it is completely curable with medications.

“If individuals test positive for TB, they are required to be in isolation for a period of time until laboratory testing confirms that they are no longer infectious to others,” Wilson said.

Wanda Tart, the department’s nursing director, encourages those seeking additional information to contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/faqs/default.htm> or the state’s TB control website at <http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/tb/>. The health department will provide updates as warranted via the Cumberland County website at www.co.cumberland.nc.us.

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