



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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ADPH investigates TB case

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Officials of the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) are investigating a case of pulmonary tuberculosis identified in a student at Lee High School in Montgomery county. Officials are working to ensure that all close contacts of the resident are quickly screened.

"As with any identified cases of tuberculosis in Alabama, ADPH will implement precautionary testing, investigation and control measures," Dr. Karen Landers, TB Advisory Council member, stated.

In late June, ADPH officials began identifying individuals who might have had close contact with the person suspected of having TB. According to ADPH, "close contact" is defined generally as spending an extended amount of time with the subject in a physically close environment. Officials are working to notify the families of students who were in close contact with the suspect case. Testing for these individuals began on Friday, June 28, at the Montgomery County Health Department. Tests will be read on Monday, July 1. The process will be repeated on August 2 and August 5.

Tuberculosis is a treatable and preventable disease. ADPH recommends that only those persons who were in close contact with the individual be tested.

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