



NEWS RELEASE

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North Dakota Department of Health Identifies Active Tuberculosis Case in Mountrail County

BISMARCK, N.D. – According to the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH), an individual in Mountrail County has been diagnosed with active tuberculosis (TB). The department is working with local school and health providers to provide free testing to those who may have been exposed to this infectious case of TB, and to make sure anyone diagnosed with TB receives proper treatment.

Tuberculosis is a serious but treatable disease that is only infectious in the “active” state. It is not spread easily, but can be spread through droplets if an infected person coughs or sneezes in close contact with an uninfected person. You cannot get TB from someone’s clothes, drinking glass, eating utensils, a handshake, toilet, or other surfaces. You also cannot get TB through casual contact, such as being in the same room with someone who is infected.

Officials emphasize that it is safe to send children to school. The infected person has been asked to stay home and will not return until their health care provider has determined they are no longer infectious.

For more information, contact Dee Pritschet, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.2377 or 701.290.5776, or djpritschet@nd.gov. Information about TB can be found by visiting www.ndhealth.gov/disease/tb/ or www.cdc.gov/tb/.

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