



# News Release

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## Wiesbaden DODDS contract employee being treated for tuberculosis

SEMBACH KASERNE, Germany – A Department of Defense Dependent Schools contract employee working in the Wiesbaden schools is currently being treated for tuberculosis. School officials said the individual had no contact with students and Army public health officials have indicated that this case poses no risk to children and a minimal risk to school staff.

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Army public health officials and the Wiesbaden Army Health Clinic are working closely with the patient's physicians. As a precautionary measure, the individual will not be working in the schools until all lab test results are negative. Public health investigators will contact any employees who may have been in contact with the patient for possible tuberculosis testing.

Transmission of TB requires direct contact with someone diagnosed with TB who is coughing or sneezing. While transmission is possible from environmental contact, persons living in the home of someone diagnosed with TB would have the highest risk of exposure due to the close proximity of family members.

Please note that TB, while a serious disease, is much more difficult to spread than a viral illness such as the influenza. Even family members with close daily contact with an actively infected individual may not become infected, and infection does not mean an individual will go on to develop TB Disease. For more information, please contact Lt. Col. Lashanda Cobbs, Wiesbaden AHC commander, at DSN 590-1347 or commercial 06371-9464-1347, or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://cdc.gov/tb>.