

W. Douglas Skelton, MD *District Health Director*

May 16, 2007

Dear Teleride Passenger:

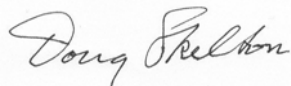
The Chatham County Health Department has reason to believe that some passengers on the Chatham Area Transit Authority's (CAT) Teleride transportation system may have been exposed to the germ that causes tuberculosis (TB). An investigation into the possible exposure is ongoing, and the Health Department has identified those passengers who may require testing. You are in receipt of this letter because you may have had contact with the case and should be screened.

TB is spread when a person inhales airborne germs over a prolonged period of time in a confined area from someone with the disease who coughs or sneezes. In addition to the lungs, TB can also affect other parts of the body. The screening test for TB is a skin test called a PPD (Purified Protein Derivative). The test is a simple procedure and consists of two parts. The first part of the test is the injection of a very small amount of protein solution just under the skin on the forearm. Part two of the test is conducted 48-72 hours after the injection, at which time, a healthcare worker will examine the forearm for presence of a bump about the size of a pencil eraser, which would indicate possible exposure to the disease and require further testing.

We will offer TB screenings free of charge at the Chatham County Health Department located at 1395 Eisenhower Drive. You should report to the Chest Clinic at this location for screening on **any Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.** If you need assistance with transportation, please contact Teleride at 912-354-6900 to schedule a ride to and from the Health Department. There will be no charge for the Teleride transportation to and from the testing site.

Please remember that 48-72 hours after the injection, a return visit to examine the skin test site is required to complete the test. If you fail to return to have the skin examined 48-72 hours after the injection, the test will need to be repeated.

Remember, tuberculosis disease is easily prevented and cured with proper medication. Feel free to contact the Chatham County Health Department at 356-2155 for additional information about TB.



W. Douglas Skelton, M.D.
Health Director
Chatham County Health Department