

Texas hospital TB probe ends with no active cases seen

March 19 2015

Health officials say they found no active tuberculosis cases among infants possibly exposed to a TB-infected El Paso hospital worker.

The El Paso health department announced Thursday that it's wrapped up its seven-month investigation of the potential exposures at Providence Memorial Hospital.

In a statement, city <u>health officials</u> say they contacted 850 of 859 patients suspected of being exposed. Tests showed 11 tested positive for exposure, but six of those were believed to be false positives because of previous vaccinations against TB. Nevertheless, 14 patients completed preventative treatment for tuberculosis.

The worker reported TB-related symptoms in July but was allowed to continue working for weeks before she was tested.

Tuberculosis bacteria typically attack the lungs but can also impact the kidneys and brain, If left untreated, it can be deadly

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