

**Insert agency name**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Insert date)

For information, contact:  
(Insert contact information)

## Headline

(Insert information about the event)

Local authorities believe that people who were at (insert location) on (insert date and time) may have been exposed to inhalation anthrax. Public Health and other local authorities are investigating this incident.

Anthrax is an acute infectious disease caused by the spore-forming bacterium *Bacillus anthracis*. A serious form of human anthrax is inhalation anthrax. Initial symptoms of this infection may resemble a common cold. After several days, the symptoms may progress to severe breathing problems and shock. Inhalation anthrax is often fatal. It is not spread from person to person.

There is treatment. Infection can be prevented with certain antibiotics. Early antibiotic treatment is essential – delay lessens chances for survival. Anthrax usually is susceptible to penicillin, doxycycline and fluoroquinolones.

If you believe you have been exposed, or if you have any of the symptoms associated with inhalation anthrax, please see a healthcare provider immediately.

Public Health may open a mass medication dispensing site. That will be determined in the coming days, and the public will be informed as soon as that decision is made. Please stay tuned to local radio and TV stations for more information.