

TB patient in Denver for treatment

by UPI

DENVER - A Georgia man whose drug-resistant tuberculosis set off an international health alert has been transferred to a Denver hospital.

Doctors at the National Jewish Medical and Research Center, a leading lung hospital, had been anticipating treating him for weeks, the Rocky Mountain News reported. Officials confirmed Thursday that the patient had arrived at the hospital.

"It is a big challenge," Dr. Charles Daley, head of the infectious disease unit at the hospital said at a news conference Wednesday. "As with any form of TB, if it continues to progress, it causes destruction of the lung ... and eventually death."

Treatment could include a variety of drugs and surgery, the newspaper reported.

Meanwhile, federal health officials were trying to track down passengers who were on two trans-Atlantic flights with the man to tell them they could have been exposed to the dangerous form of tuberculosis, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

The Atlanta-area man told the Journal-Constitution that state and county health officials told him they "preferred" he didn't travel abroad. But he said they knew of his plans to fly to Greece for his wedding, followed by a tour of Europe for a honeymoon.

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