



Case of MRSA found at nursing home; complaint filed

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By Teresa Whitaker **CONNECT**

Knowing that a loved one living in a nursing home is getting the care they need and deserve is a concern for millions of Americans.

A Georgetown, Georgia woman, Lee Nola West, filed a complaint with the Georgia Department of Community Health when her mother, Annie Hall caught an infection that, in some cases, can be deadly. MRSA, or Methacillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus is a bacteria that is highly resistant to antibiotics. Hall's medical records confirmed MRSA.

The State investigated the Joe-Anne Burgin Nursing Home in Cuthbert, Georgia. Julie Fisher, The Complaint and Investigative Manager at the Department of Community Health, later responded writing: "...the evidence obtained during the investigation was able to support one or more of your allegations."

We contacted Phoebe Putney Health System which runs Joe-Anne Burgin about the Hall case. They declined an on-camera interview but issued this statement to News 3:

"Infection prevention in our facility, and all nursing homes, is a multidisciplinary function involving every member of the care team. We follow professional best practices and comply with state and federal regulations to ensure the safest environment possible for our residents. "

Mary Scruggs with Georgia Department of Community Health says there are more than 350 nursing homes in Georgia. The responsibility of monitoring those Georgia facilities falls on a group of less than 40 inspectors spread out across the state to conduct regular, unannounced surveys.

If you have a complaint about a nursing home you can call Georgia's Adult Protective Services Hotline at 1-800-878-6442.

If you have concerns about a Nursing Home, you can visit <http://dch.georgia.gov/> or <http://www.medicare.gov/NursingHomeCompare/search.html>. There you can find inspection reports and an overall rating. Below are other helpful websites.

<http://nursinghomereportcards.com/>

<http://nursinghomereportcards.com/state/ga/>

<http://nursinghomereportcards.com/state/al/>



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