

SARS Health Alert

A health alert has been issued about a new Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). Cases have been linked to travel to Peoples' Republic of China (i.e. mainland China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region), Hanoi, Vietnam, and Singapore.

Persons with SARS have the following:

- Fever ($>38^{\circ}\text{C}$ [100.4°F]) **AND**
- Cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty in breathing **AND**
- History of travel to Peoples' Republic of China (i.e. mainland China and Hong Kong Special Administrative Region), Hanoi, Vietnam, and Singapore within 10 days of symptom onset **OR**

Close contact (within 10 days of symptom onset) to persons with respiratory illness having the above travel history. Close contact includes having cared for, lived with, or had direct contact with respiratory secretions and body fluids of a person with SARS.

If you are concerned that you might have SARS:

- Call the Student Health Center at 229-931-2235 and ask to speak to a nurse.
- Go to the emergency room at Sumter Regional Hospital for an evaluation.
- Call the Sumter County Health Department at 229-924-3637 and ask to speak to a nurse.

For updated information including frequently asked questions on SARS, visit the following web site:

- <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/faq.htm>

If you are planning to travel, the CDC and WHO have recommendations regarding the outbreak of SARS:

- http://www.cdc.gov/travel/other/acute_resp_syn_multi.htm