



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

Nov. 18, 2008

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TB CASE REPORTED AT SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE

HHSA Working with School Officials to Identify Those Who May Have Been Exposed

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is working with San Diego City College officials to notify students and faculty who were possibly exposed to tuberculosis (TB) at San Diego City College.

One student has been diagnosed with TB. The individual attended classes from Monday - Thursday Aug. 25 to Nov. 3, 2008.

"This serves as a reminder that TB is in our community," says Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. "TB is treatable, and we recommend that those who may have been exposed get tested to determine whether or not they need treatment."

HHSA's TB Control, working closely with school officials, has identified approximately 190 students and faculty who may have been exposed. The school has sent notification letters to the affected individuals.

"The health of our students, faculty and staff is our first priority," said Dotti Cordell, R.N., M.P.H., Director, Student Health Services.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. In 2007, there were 280 total cases of tuberculosis in San Diego County. In 2008 to date, there have been 201 cases of TB.

Symptoms of active TB include persistent cough, fever, night sweats and unexplained weight loss. Most people who are exposed to TB do not develop the disease.

San Diego City College students who have received mailed notification of exposure risk may obtain TB skin testing from a family physician, through the County of San Diego Public Health Centers or at City College Student Health Services. For neighborhood Public Health Centers please call (619) 692-5565. Individuals with no medical provider, or anyone who would like more information, may call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

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