



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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TUBERCULOSIS CASE REPORTED AT SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE *HHS and College Notify Students and Offer Testing*

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) and Southwestern College have notified students and an instructor who were possibly exposed to tuberculosis. A student who attended one course at the college from Jan. 18 to Feb. 14 has been diagnosed with tuberculosis.

“We worked closely with the college to notify all who may have been exposed,” said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer.

HHS Tuberculosis Control Program and Southwestern College staff identified 49 students and one instructor that were potentially exposed. Since the student did not visit the library, cafeteria, or student lounge, there is no risk of exposure to others at the college. The student is receiving care and there is no longer any risk of exposure to the community.

“Only the classmates and the instructor are at any risk of exposure. All have been informed and have been offered tuberculosis skin testing,” added Wooten.

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

For more information on tuberculosis, contact HHS's Tuberculosis Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. In 2007, there were 280 total cases of tuberculosis in San Diego County. In 2006, there were 315 cases.

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