



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

June 2, 2008

CONTACT: José A. Álvarez (619) 515-6635

San Diego State Contact: Gina Speciale (619) 594-4563

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Contact: Dana Quittner (619) 644-7573

TUBERCULOSIS CASE REPORTED AT LOCAL COLLEGES

Individual is Associated with Classes at San Diego State and Cuyamaca College;

HHSa Working with School Officials to Identify Those Possibly Exposed

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSa) is working with San Diego State University (SDSU) and Cuyamaca College officials to notify students, faculty and staff who were possibly exposed to tuberculosis (TB) at both schools.

An individual associated with classes at SDSU from Jan. 22 to May 7, 2008 and Cuyamaca College from Jan. 28 to May 9, 2008, has been diagnosed with TB.

"TB is in our community, and we want the public to know that treatment is available," says Dean Sidelinger, M.D., M.S. Ed., Deputy County Public Health Officer. "HHSa's TB Control Branch offers testing, resources and information on TB and TB prevention."

HHSa's TB Control, in collaboration with staff from both schools, has identified approximately 55 people at SDSU, and 85 people at Cuyamaca College, including students, faculty and staff that were potentially exposed. Both schools are sending letters to affected students.

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 82 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.

Individuals with no medical provider, or anyone who would like more information, may call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

SDSU students who may have been exposed and were enrolled during the spring 2008 semester also may be tested at no cost at Student Health Services (SHS) on campus. For questions regarding testing and treatment at SHS, please call (619) 594-5281.

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TB testing will be available for affected Cuyamaca College students at the Cuyamaca College Student Health and Wellness Center, in room I-134 in the Student Center June 2, 3 and 4, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The Student Health and Wellness Center can be reached at (619) 660-4346.

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