



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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TUBERCULOSIS CASE REPORTED AT COOK ELEMENTARY *Individuals with Possible Exposure Notified*

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is working with officials from Cook Elementary School in Chula Vista to notify individuals who were possibly exposed to a child with tuberculosis (TB).

“The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency worked with school officials to send notification letters to the parents of the individual’s classmates,” said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County Public Health Officer. “TB Control staff also provided a health presentation for the parents, and will perform onsite testing at the school for those who may have been exposed to TB.

“TB is treatable and curable, so anyone exposed to TB should get tested. Most people exposed do not develop the disease, but it is recommended that they get tested to be sure,” Wooten added.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. In 2009 to date, there are approximately 72 confirmed cases of TB in San Diego County. In 2008 there were 264 total reported 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. Prolonged close contact with an individual who has TB is required in order to spread the disease to others.

Those who need testing and have no medical provider, or need more information, may call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

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