



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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DOH WILL CONDUCT TB TESTING AT ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) will test about 160 students and staff members at Roosevelt High School for tuberculosis (TB) due to possible exposure to a student with active TB. In November, the DOH confirmed active TB in a Roosevelt student who is currently receiving treatment and is not attending school.

"This is a rare situation in Hawai'i," Dr. Jessie Wing, chief of the DOH Tuberculosis Control Branch said. "We've had very good meetings with school staff and students and appreciate the understanding and excellent cooperation we've experienced. The Department of Health urges parents to return their completed consent forms for testing this week so we can finish the screening process before students leave for vacation."

The DOH will test students and staff identified as having close and prolonged contact with the ill student as a precautionary measure. Parents and guardians of all students are being notified this week with a letter from the school administration. In addition, informational sessions will be held on December 5 and 11 from 6-7 p.m. for all parents and guardians at the school cafeteria.

The department will proceed with testing for TB on site at the high school on Monday, December 10. Individuals tested will have their Tuberculin Skin Test evaluated in school on December 12 by the health department.

For more information on tuberculosis or TB testing, the public may call the DOH Hawai'i Tuberculosis Control Program at 832-5731 or visit the following websites:

- Hawai'i State Department of Health at www.hawaii.gov/health/tb
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/tb

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