



Public Health Press Release

April 14, 2010

Amador Public Health, 10877 Conductor Blvd, Ste 400 Sutter Creek, CA 95685
Phone (209) 223-6407 Fax (209)223-1562
publichealth@co.amador.ca.us

Follow-up of TB Investigation at Jackson Junior High

"These two individuals with a positive skin test are in good health and are not a health risk to other students, staff, family members, and friends."

Jackson, Ca. Amador County Public Health in cooperation with the Amador County Unified School District administration has completed the first round of tuberculosis (TB) screening. As of today, two student/staff had a positive TB skin test.

"I want to assure students and staff that these individuals with a positive TB skin test are not contagious. They have the inactive form of the germ and CANNOT spread the TB germ to anyone else," says Dr. Bob Hartmann, Amador County Health Officer. "These two individuals with a positive skin test are in good health and are not a health risk to other students, staff, family members, and friends."

This round of testing found that 2.7% of the people tested had a positive TB skin test, indicating that they were infected with the TB germ at some time in their life. "We would normally expect about 3% of our community to have a positive TB skin test," says Lori Jagoda, Amador County Public Health Communicable Disease Coordinator.

Because there is an 8 to 10 week incubation window for TB infection, Public Health will be conducting a follow-up round of testing with each student/staff that tested negative in this round. The second round of testing will begin during the week of May 17th, 2010. This will assure that anyone who may have been infected from the original case will be identified.

If a student/staff is negative during the first and the second round of testing, then they are NOT infected with the TB germ. If they are positive at second TB skin test read, Amador County Public Health will evaluate further and proceed to the appropriate treatment.

"I sincerely appreciate the cooperation that the school district administration, parents, students, and staff have given Public Health during the TB investigation," says Dr. Bob Hartmann.

 Amador HealthOfficer


twitter.com/AmadorHlthOffcr

Follow-up of TB Investigation (cont')

The second round of testing will begin during the week of May 17th, 2010.

As a reminder, it is important to recognize that there is a difference between TB infection and TB disease.

People with TB **infection** (without disease):

- Have the TB germ in their body, but are not sick because the germ is inactive.
- They cannot spread the germ to others.

People with TB **disease**:

- Are sick from the germs that are active in their body.
- May cough a lot, feel weak, have a fever, lose weight, cough up blood, or sweat a lot at night.
- May transmit the infection to others.