



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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**TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAM RETURNS TO
LANAKILA HEALTH CENTER**

HONOLULU -- The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) Tuberculosis (TB) Control Program will return to the ground floor at Lanakila Health Center (1700 Lanakila Ave.) on May 28, 2013, after a seven-month temporary relocation. The return of the program to its permanent home follows the completion of construction work for renovations, remodeling the air conditioning system, and upgrading the program's internet and telephone communication systems.

To facilitate the move, the TB Control Program will close on Friday, May 24, 2013, at its current temporary location at Waimano Home Road, and will reopen at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, at the Lanakila site. The regular hours of operation at Lanakila Health Center will be:

TB Skin Testing:

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri – 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Thurs – 7:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. (skin test reading only)
Phone: 832-5731 / Fax: 832-3538

TB Clinic Hours:

Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri – 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Thurs – 7:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Phone: 832-3539 / Fax: 832-3538

Chest X-ray:

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri – 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Thurs – 7:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.

(more)

“Mahalo to the people of Hawaii for their understanding, patience and aloha for both the inconvenience of the TB Control Program’s relocation and the temporary suspension of TB clearance requirements,” said Dr. Glenn Wasserman, chief of the DOH Communicable Disease Division.

The temporary suspension of tuberculosis (TB) clearance requirements in Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11, Chapter 164.1, for school personnel, students, food handlers, and workers in health care, domiciliary care, daycare, and residential care facilities remains in effect. This statewide temporary suspension of clearance requirements, which began April 11, 2013, is in response to a nationwide shortage of testing solution required for tuberculin skin testing.

The TB Control Program continues to provide guidance to schools, universities and colleges, and partners in the medical community on how best to use available testing solution with a focus on testing specific high risk groups. To date, there have been no negative impacts resulting from the suspension of the state TB screening requirements.

“The department appreciates the positive collaboration we have had with the healthcare community to prioritize the limited supplies of TB test solution for those most at risk,” said Dr. Wasserman. “We will issue a public notice when the suspension of the TB clearance requirement is lifted, and a grace period or catch-up date will be announced for individuals whose TB clearance was postponed.”

The Hawaii TB Control Program coordinates and provides programs for prevention, detection, surveillance, control, and treatment of tuberculosis throughout the state. For more information about the TB Program or TB testing, the public may call the Hawaii TB Control Program at (808) 832-5731 or go to www.hawaii.gov/health/tb.

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For more information regarding this news release, contact:

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