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Media Statement: Suspected Bacterial Meningitis

NOVEMBER 9, 2007

An undergraduate student at Georgia Southern University residing off-campus was diagnosed with suspected bacterial meningitis. He was treated with prophylactic medication and immediately transported to the East Georgia Regional Medical Center for additional testing and treatment. Initial testing indicates the student does have bacterial meningitis and additional testing is being conducted to confirm the diagnosis.

The general public is not at risk and only those who had close contact with the individual should be treated with antibiotics. No other cases have been reported at this time and the student is responding well to treatment and is expected to recover.

The Bulloch County Department of Public Health has been notified and appropriate infection control measures are being taken to contain further infection. It is important to note that the student in question only had close personal contact with a limited number of individuals. The University and the Bulloch County Public Health Infection Control staff are working to identify any additional persons that may have come into contact with this student.

The infected student's roommate and those in close personal contact have been notified and are being treated with prophylactic medication, as have all University staff involved with the student's treatment. Georgia Southern University's Department of Health Services continues to monitor the situation and is working with the Bulloch County Department of Public Health to ensure that every effort is made to ensure that the situation is contained to those already identified.

For more information, see FAQ's at: <http://news.georgiasouthern.edu/Q&A.htm>.