

## For Immediate Release

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## REPORTING AT-HOME COVID-19 TEST RESULTS FOR CAMERON COUNTY RESIDENTS

The federal government has officially launched a website where each household in the U.S. is eligible to order four (4) at-home COVID-19 tests free of charge. As this testing will impact the Cameron County COVID-19 case reporting, Cameron County Public Health is asking the public to self-report their results.

"As more households will be able to test for COVID with at-home tests, it will make it difficult to keep up with what is truly happening in terms of COVID-19 cases in our community," stated Esmeralda Guajardo, Health Administrator. "In order for us to better understand it and continue to keep the public informed, we are asking residents to help us by self-reporting their results. We intend to report these numbers within our daily case report and differentiate between at-home tests and tests reported to us by medical providers."

Residents in Cameron County can report their results to the Cameron County Public Health website at <a href="https://www.cameroncountytx.gov/publichealth/">www.cameroncountytx.gov/publichealth/</a>. Residents are asked to report both positive and negative results. If a resident has question or concerns about the reporting process, assistance may be provided by calling the Cameron County Public Health Hotline at (956) 247-3650.

"Having the ability to test at home and know results immediately is a step forward in taking the necessary precautions when sick," stated Cameron County Judge Eddie Treviño, Jr. "Since COVID-19 has impacted our area over the past two years, we have maintained a great reporting structure countywide that we hope to continue especially now that there will be an increase with at-home testing."

The public is now able to place their order for the free at-home COVID-19 tests by registering online. The federal government is advising the following:

- There is a limit of one (1) order per residential address;
- Each order includes four (4) individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests;
- Additional tests cannot be ordered regardless of the size of the household;
- Orders must be placed by visiting <u>www.covidtests.gov</u>; and
- Tests are expected to ship starting in late January by the United States Postal Service (USPS).

