



Department of Public Health

MAYOR

Dee Margo

HEALTH ADVISORY UPDATE

CITY COUNCIL

District 1

Peter Svarzbein

District 2

Alexsandra Anello

District 3

Cassandra Hernandez

District 4

Dr. Sam Morgan

District 5

Isabel Salcido

District 6

Claudia L. Rodriguez

District 7

Henry Rivera

District 8

Cissy Lizarraga

DATE: 4/21/2020

Updated Criteria for the COVID-19 Specimen Collection Drive-thru Site

Background

In an effort to expand disease surveillance, the testing criteria has been expanded to test the general public that are symptomatic (Phase 3 Testing).

This advisory is posted on the City of El Paso Department of Public Health (DPH) website found at www.epstrong.org.

REASON FOR THIS ADVISORY:

On March 23, 2020 the City of El Paso received specimen collection assets from the federal government to conduct targeted community testing. Criteria has been updated to:

1. All persons with symptoms¹

Qualifying individuals must not take any fever reducing medications prior to the appointment. A physician's order or insurance is **not** required. If testing criteria is not met, the appointment and/or specimen collection at the site will be denied.

Additionally, persons evaluated by a medical provider and given a Quest laboratory order for COVID-19 testing can be processed at the drive-thru collection site. Physicians need to provide health plan, Medicaid or Medicare information on the Quest requisition along with the appropriate ICD10 code. The test code is **39448 SARS Coronavirus with COV-2, RNA**.

Robert Resendes – Public Health Director

Department of Public Health | 5115 El Paso Dr. | El Paso, TX 79905
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CITY MANAGER

Tommy Gonzalez





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Government payors are covering the cost of the test. Health plans are waving copays and deductibles.

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To make an appointment call **(915) 212-0783** during operational hours of **Monday thru Saturday** from **7am – 5pm**. Location of the collection specimen drive-thru site will be provided when the appointment is made. Instructions will be provided for those awaiting their results. Test results will be received between 3-7 days.

District 2

Alexandra Anello

1. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Other symptoms may include, muscle aches, fatigue, sore throat, chills, headache, runny nose, abdominal pain/discomfort, nausea, vomiting, new loss of taste and smell or diarrhea.

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