



Eddie Treviño, Jr.
County Judge

For Immediate Release

December 28, 2021

Contact: Eddie Treviño, Jr.

Cameron County Judge

**EMERGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY: STATEMENT ON
OMICRON VARIANT AND STATEWIDE UNAVAILABILITY OF
ANTIBODY TREATMENT**

On December 27, 2021, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) released a statement informing that, due to a national shortage, several regional infusion centers throughout the State have exhausted their supply of sotrovimab, the only monoclonal antibody treatment effective against the recent COVID variant Omicron. The other monoclonal antibody treatments that were used for previous variants (bamlanivimab plus etesevimab and casirivimab plus imdevimab), are not effective against Omicron which has rapidly become the dominant variant in Texas.

All residents and visitors to Cameron County are encouraged to continue with all safeguards and necessary precautions, fully vaccinate, and obtain a booster shot as soon as eligibility is met in order to remain safe from the emerging severe strains of COVID. Please discuss with your primary care doctor's office or physician should you have any questions or concerns or have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Most importantly, we ask that this New Year's everyone remain healthy and avoid unnecessary congregations that place people at risk of possible exposure to this highly contagious airborne virus. DSHS recently announced that the Omicron variant now accounts for more than 90% of the new cases in Texas.

COVID-19 testing, both PCR & rapid, will be available today, Tuesday, December 28th through Thursday, December 30th at the Cameron County Commissioner Precinct Warehouses 1 & 4. No appointment necessary, must show I.D.

- Precinct 1: 2050 S. Browne Avenue, Brownsville, TX 78526.
 - Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Precinct 4: 26623 White Ranch Road, La Feria, TX 78559.
 - Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

COVID-19 vaccines Moderna, Pfizer, and Johnson & Johnson, remain available at all four Cameron County Public Health Clinics. For questions or availability, please contact the County Coronavirus Hotline at (956) 247-3650.

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