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Community spread determined as cause of 9th COVID-19 case

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NEW BRAUNFELS — A ninth positive case of COVID-19 has been confirmed in Comal County – and the first case in which community spread is the likely source.

The patient is in their 80s and lives in the Bulverde area, where they reported visiting the Bulverde H-E-B sometime between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on March 10 and March 12, and the Bulverde Walmart sometime between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on March 16 before becoming symptomatic. They are currently hospitalized outside of the county.

"Until this point, all of our positive cases had traveled to places experiencing an active COVID-19 outbreak before developing symptoms," said Cheryl Fraser, director of public health. "This patient has tested positive without leaving Comal County, which means COVID-19 is spreading in our community."

As of 7 p.m. Thursday, Comal County's Office of Public Health has received reports of the following test information:

- 125 tests conducted
- 9 positive tests
- 78 negative tests
- 38 results still pending

Information about COVID-19, as well as coronavirus-related county office closures and restrictions, is available at <u>www.comalcountytx.com/covid19</u>.

Residents with questions or concerns about the novel coronavirus can call the county's dedicated COVID-19 hotline, 830-221-1120, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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