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## VI Department of Health Offering Free Covid Testing at Coral Bay, St. John

Coronavirus / **Published On July 12, 2023 07:00 AM /**

Staff Consortium **July 12, 2023**

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The V.I. Dept. of of Health's Epidemiology Division has announced that it will be providing free Covid-19 testing at Coral Bay in St. John. The service will be available from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12th.

This week, the division's testing operations will be relocated from its regular site at the Virgin Islands Port Authority (VIPA) Parking Lot in Cruz Bay due to space limitations following the recent St. John celebration.

The Epidemiology Division is urging those who are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms, which include fever, cough, tiredness, and loss of taste or smell, to avail themselves of the testing. The team aims to identify as many cases as possible in order to prevent further transmission and

provide necessary treatments.

In addition to those experiencing symptoms, the Division is also recommending testing for individuals who have taken a home test and received a negative result, yet continue to feel unwell. Confirmatory testing could reveal a positive case that a home test kit might have missed.

Identifying a positive Covid-19 case as early as possible is crucial as it enables the administration of antiviral medication. This treatment can reduce the severity of the illness, possibly shorten its duration, and help prevent hospitalization.

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