



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

October 23, 2020

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2020- 0348

FOR :

DIRECTORS OF CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT (CHD) AND BRUEAU AND SERVICE DIRECTORS; RLEDs; MINISTER OF HEALTH – BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (MOH-BARMM); HEAD OF COVID-19 LABORATORIES; AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : **Survey on Current Prices of COVID-19 Test**

The Department of Health (DOH) issued Department Memorandum (DM) 2020-0439 titled “Omnibus Interim Guidelines on Prevention, Detection, Isolation, Treatment, and Reintegration Strategies for COVID-19,” dated October 6, 2020, to provide guidelines on surveillance, screening, contact tracing, quarantine or isolation, and testing as part of the COVID-19 response. The said DM provided the recommendations on the rational use of the tests for COVID-19, whether RT-PCR, antigen or antibody testing.

Reports/complaints have been received by the Department on the variability in the testing fees for COVID-19 tests. To protect the public from the exorbitant pricing of these tests, the Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau (HFSRB) was tasked to conduct a survey of the prevailing prices by the different laboratories, whether doing tests to detect SARS-COV-2 using RT-PCR and presence of antigen or antibody.

In order to determine the prevailing rates for these tests, all COVID-19 laboratories and other facilities performing antigen and antibody tests are hereby directed to submit to HFSRB the accomplished template provided (see Annex A) on or before October 29, 2020 at this email: hfsrb.sdd@gmail.com

For strict compliance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:

DR. MARIA ROSARIO S. VERGEIRE, MPH, CESO IV
OIC - Undersecretary of Health
Health Regulation Team

Annex A. DC 2020 - 0348

I. RT-PCR

Selling/Current Price: _____

A. Direct Cost	Unit Cost	Remarks
1. Testing Kits		
2. Reagents		
3. Control		
4. Miscellaneous or Consummables		
4.1. Supplies for collection of specimen which includes personal protective equipment, swab, transport medium etc.		
4.2. Supplies for processing of specimen like micropipettes		
4.3. Supplies for releasing results like paper, ink		
B. Indirect Cost		
1. Salaries of staff (please disaggregate per staff and include head of laboratory)		
2. Utilities (please disaggregate e.g. water, electricity, internet connection etc.) and include rent, if applicable		
C. Administrative Cost and other source of charges		

II. Antibody test using machine (e.g. CLIA)

Selling/Current Price: _____

A. Direct Cost	Unit Cost	Remarks
1. Testing kits		
2. Reagents		
3. Control		
4. Miscellaneous or Consummables		
4.1. Supplies for collection of specimen which includes personal protective equipment, syringe, cotton etc.		
4.2. Supplies for processing of specimen like micropipettes		
1.1. Supplies for releasing results like paper, ink		
B. Indirect Cost		
1. Salaries of staff (please disaggregate per staff and include head of laboratory)		
C. Administrative Cost and other source of charges		

III. Antibody test using lateral flow

Selling/Current Price: _____

A. Direct Cost	Unit Cost	Remarks
1. Testing kits/cassettes		
2. Control		
3. Miscellaneous or Consummables		
3.1. Supplies for collection of specimen which includes personal protective equipment, syringe, cotton etc.		
3.2. Supplies for processing of specimen like micropipettes, disinfectants		
3.3. Supplies for releasing results like paper, ink		
B. Indirect Cost		
1. Salaries of staff (please disaggregate per staff and include head of laboratory)		
2. Utilities (please disaggregate e.g. water, electricity, internet connection etc.) and include rent, if applicable		
C. Administrative Cost and other source of charges		

IV. Antigen

Selling/Current Price: _____

A. Direct Cost	Unit Cost	Remarks
1. Testing kits		
2. Reagents		
3. Control		
4. Miscellaneous or Consummables		
3.1. Supplies for collection of specimen which includes personal protective equipment, swab etc.		
3.2. Supplies for processing of specimen		
3.3. Supplies for releasing results like paper, ink		
B. Indirect Cost		
1. Salaries of staff (please disaggregate per staff and include head of laboratory)		
2. Utilities (please disaggregate e.g. water, electricity, internet connection etc.) and include rent, if applicable		
C. Administrative Cost and other source of charges		