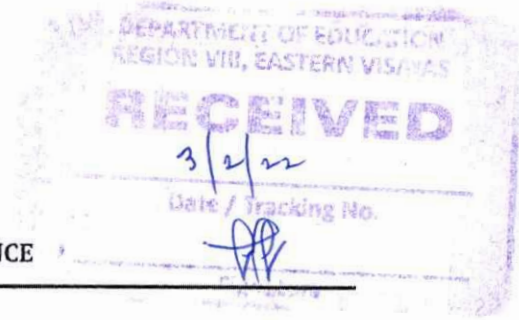




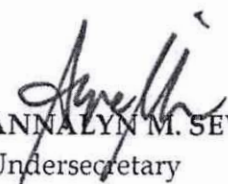
Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR FINANCE

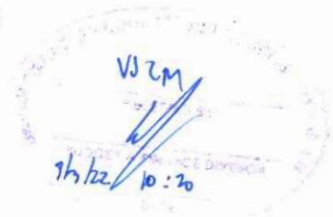


MEMORANDUM
 OUF-2022-0023

FOR : UNDERSECRETARIES
 ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
 BUREAU, SERVICE, AND REGIONAL DIRECTORS
 SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
 ALL OTHERS CONCERNED



FROM :  ANNALYN M. SEVILLA
 Undersecretary



SUBJECT : ADVISORY ON THE PRICE CAP FOR COVID-19 TESTING KITS AND SERVICES

DATE : February 9, 2022

This refers to the issuances of the Department of Health on the price cap for COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing, as well as for COVID-19 Reverse Transcription - Polymerase Reaction (RT-PCR) Testing:

- Per Department of Health (DOH) Circular No. 2021-0323-B, Section I on the **Price Cap for Self-Administered COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing**, the following price cap is effective starting February 20, 2022:

Cost Component	Price (in Philippine Peso)
SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kit equivalent to one (1) test, which is inclusive of the materials and accessories necessary for the procedure (appropriate swab, test kit cartridge, buffer or equivalent, tube or equivalent for mixing of buffer with sample, dropper, or equivalent sample delivery instrument)	Php 350.00

2. Per Department of Health (DOH) Circular No. 2021-0323-B, Section II on the Price Cap for COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing Inclusive of Testing Service, the following price cap is effective starting February 20, 2022:

Cost Components	Price (in Philippine Peso)
SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kit	Php 350.00
Operational Cost (Other Related Laboratory Supplies and Overheads)	Php 250.00
10% Allowable Mark-up	Php 60.00
FINAL COST (PRICE CAP)	Php 660.00

3. Department of Health (DOH) Circular No. 2021-0374 on the Price Cap for COVID-19 RT-PCR Testing, the following price cap thereof is effective starting September 6, 2021, subject to change:

		PLATE-BASED	GENEXPERT (CARTRIDGE - BASED)
PUBLIC	Price Cap for Cost of Procedure	Php 2,800.00	Php 2,450.00
PRIVATE	Price Cap for Cost of Procedure (with 20% allowable mark-up)	Php 3,360.00	Php 2,940.00
	Price Cap for Home Service	Php 1,000	Php 1,000

Laboratories, health facilities, and other testing centers may have prices lower than the prescribed price cap for RT-PCR testing and Home Service Fee provided that quality of services are maintained. However, no manufacturer, distributor or testing facility should exceed the price cap.

Senior Citizen and Persons with Disability discounts are applicable to the total amount of the service/s rendered.

All DepEd units are instructed to strictly follow the issuances of the Department of Health (attached). Should there be a subsequent DOH Circular revising the price cap, the prices indicated in this advisory shall automatically abide to such DOH issuance.

For compliance.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

January 28, 2022

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. ~~2022-~~ 2021-0323-B

TO: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES; ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS, CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES; EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS, AND NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS, SANITARIA, AND INSTITUTES; PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION; DIRECTORS OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL AND TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS; AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Further Amendment to Department Circular No. 2021-0323 entitled "Price Cap for COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing"

The Department Circular No. 2021-0323 entitled "Price Cap for COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing" and Department Circular No. 2021-0323-A, also known as "Amendment to Department Circular No. 2021-0323 entitled "Price Cap for COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing"" are hereby amended to reflect the following changes:

I. Price Cap for SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kit

Cost Component	Price (in Philippine Peso)
SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kit equivalent to one (1) test, which is inclusive of the materials and accessories necessary for the procedure (appropriate swab, test kit cartridge, buffer or equivalent, tube or equivalent for mixing of buffer with sample, dropper, or equivalent sample delivery instrument)	350.00

The price cap shall apply to the retail of SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT) Kit (also known as "COVID-19 antigen RDT kits"). This does not include COVID-19 Antigen RDTs marketed or labeled as self-administered test kits which can be bought over-the-counter (i.e., without the need for a doctor's prescription) and can be performed by non-healthcare professionals or lay users in homes, non-hospital, or non-laboratory settings.

Based on Administrative Order No. 2021-0043, the antigen rapid diagnostic test kits shall meet the following requirements:

1. FDA special certification or FDA registered with a minimum sensitivity of 80% and specificity of 97%, in conformity with HTAC specifications
2. To ensure accuracy and reliability of antigen RDT results, the sensitivity and specificity of antigen RDT shall be validated by any of the following institutions:
 - A. RITM - the list of RITM evaluated antigen RDT kits can be accessed in this link <https://bit.ly/ritmkitevaluation>
 - B. WHO Emergency Use Listing (EUL) for In Vitro Diagnostic (IVDs) Detecting SARS-COV-2- the list of IVDs with WHO EUL can be accessed through this link <https://bitly/WHOEULIVDs>
 - C. WHO FIND- the list of WHO FIND evaluated antigen RDT kits can be accessed through this link <https://www.finddx.org/sarscov2-eval-antigen>
 - D. Other reputable international laboratories; and local laboratories authorized by RITM
3. Therefore, antigen rapid diagnostic test kits that do not meet the above mentioned qualifications are not recommended for public use.

II. Price Cap for COVID-19 Antigen Testing Service

Applying the mandated price cap for antigen rapid diagnostic test kits and the updated operational cost for conducting the above mentioned service, the new price cap for Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Testing Service shall be:

Cost Components	Price (in Philippine Peso)
SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kit	350.00
Operational Cost (Other Related Laboratory Supplies and Overheads)	250.00
10% Allowable Mark-up	60.00
FINAL COST (PRICE CAP)	660.00

Antigen rapid diagnostic test kits subsidized or donated by the DOH and other government agencies to DOH licensed public and private health facilities and clinical laboratories shall be provided at zero cost to individuals. Only items directly procured by DOH-licensed health facilities and clinical laboratories and not provided by DOH can be charged (i.e., Personal protective Equipment (PPEs), gloves, disinfectants, etc.). Moreover, DOH licensed health facilities and clinical laboratories may have prices lower than the prescribed price cap for antigen rapid diagnostic testing, provided that quality of services is maintained.

III. ~~VI.~~ Price Cap for Self-Administered SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kit

In anticipation of the use of self-administered test kits, a price cap shall be set for self-administered antigen rapid diagnostic test kits, subject to regular review by the Technical Working Group.

Cost Component	Price (in Philippine Peso)
SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Rapid Diagnostic Test Kit equivalent to one (1) test, which is inclusive of the materials and accessories necessary for the procedure (appropriate swab, test kit cartridge, buffer or equivalent, tube or equivalent for mixing of buffer with sample, dropper, or equivalent sample delivery instrument, manual or leaflet containing instructions on the use of the self-administered test kit)	350.00

IV. Date of Effectivity

The updated price caps for antigen rapid diagnostic test kits and testing services are effective starting **February 20, 2022**.

V. Reporting of Laboratory Complaints

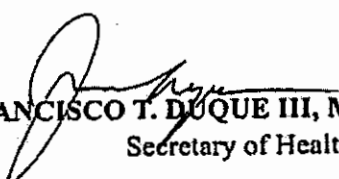
All DOH-licensed health facilities and clinical laboratories providing antigen RDT service, manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, and retailers selling antigen rapid diagnostic test kits shall **strictly comply** with the mandated price cap. Complaints on laboratories, hospitals, and other facilities that charge prices exceeding the price cap shall be reported and submitted to the Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau (HFSRB). To file a report, concerned persons may contact the HFSRB at hfsrb@doh.gov.ph.

VI. Posting and Dissemination of Price Cap

The price caps shall be published on the DOH website and social media platforms and disseminated widely for the information of the public.

All other provisions of DC No. 2021-0323 and DC No. 2021-0323-A not affected by this Order shall be retained and remain in effect.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until lifted.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc
Secretary of Health



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

August 26, 2021

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2021 - 0374

TO: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES; ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS, CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES; EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS, AND NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS, SANITARIA AND INSTITUTES; PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION; DIRECTORS OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL AND TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS; AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: PRICE CAP FOR COVID-19 REVERSE TRANSCRIPTION-POLYMERASE REACTION (RT-PCR) TESTING

On November 4, 2020, the Executive Order (EO) No. 118 was signed, which mandated the Department of Health (DOH), in coordination with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), to determine, formulate, and implement a price cap for COVID-19 testing conducted by hospitals, laboratories, and other health establishments and facilities including the test kits used in the conduct of said tests, subject to existing rules and regulations.

In view of EO 118, the Joint Administrative Order No. 1, s. 2020 was issued to implement regulation of prices of COVID-19 testing and test kits. As stated in the JAO, a monthly review will be conducted by DOH and DTI, hence, the mandated price cap shall be subject to change. Pursuant to the foregoing, the following price caps for public and private health facilities including the price cap for Home Service are hereby issued for RT-PCR Plate-based and Cartridge-based Testing effective starting September 6, 2021.

		PLATE-BASED	GENEXPERT (CARTRIDGE-BASED)
PUBLIC	Price Cap for Cost of Procedure^{1,2}	Php 2,800.00	Php 2,450.00
PRIVATE	Price Cap for Cost of Procedure^{1,2} (with 20% allowable markup)	Php 3,360.00	Php 2,940.00

	PLATE-BASED	GENEXPERT (CARTRIDGE-BASED)
Price Cap for Home Service ^{1,2}	Php 1,000.00	Php 1,000.00

¹ Laboratories, health facilities, and other testing centers may have prices lower than the prescribed price cap for RT-PCR testing and Home Service Fee provided that quality of services are maintained. However, no manufacturer, distributor, or testing facility should exceed the price cap.

² Senior Citizen and Persons with Disability discounts are applicable to the total amount of the service/s rendered.

This information should be available for public access on the DOH website and other social media platforms.

All COVID-19 testing laboratories, health facilities, and centers are to strictly comply with this price cap.

Dissemination to all concerned stakeholders is requested.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc
 Secretary of Health