



May 14, 2020

**COVID-19 ADVISORY NO. 016**

**TO: ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT HEALTH FACILITIES,  
ORGANIZATIONS CONDUCTING RIGID RISK-BASED TESTING**

**SUBJECT: Reiteration on the Responsible Use of COVID-19 Rapid Antibody-based  
Test Kits**

**Care must be exercised in order to avoid misinterpretation of the test results and unnecessary public panic.** RT-PCR testing remains the standard for diagnosing COVID-19 and that COVID-19 antibody-based test kits cannot be used as standalone tests to diagnose COVID-19. Because deployment of anti-body based test to population may undermine public health response, thus, LGUs who opt to deploy such technologies shall be responsible for ensuring measures are in place to prevent such risks.

In view of the foregoing, the LGUs who opt to conduct expanded testing procedures for COVID-19 in their respective unit using anti-body based testing kits are hereby advised to:

1. Observe existing guidelines on the use of COVID-19 rapid antibody-based test kits, and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations;
2. Ensure measures in the proper interpretation of results, which includes the participation in all instances by the health experts, together with Counseling Team. The interpretation of test result shall be made by licensed medical professional or doctor.

For dissemination to all concerned.

**MINERVA P. MOLON, MD, MPH, FPPA, CESO III**  
Regional Director