



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture  
**BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY**  
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City 1128  
Philippines

Memorandum Circular No. 08  
Series 2018

**TO : ALL CONCERNED**

**FROM : OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, DIRECTOR**

**DATE : APRIL 16, 2018**

**SUBJECT : USE OF RAPID TEST KIT/S FOR SCREENING OF POULTRY FOR SURVEILLANCE, ACCREDITATION AND TRANSPORT PURPOSES**

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**WHEREAS**, Avian Influenza (AI) is a highly infectious disease of poultry and birds with both economic and public health importance;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines has detected its first laboratory confirmed case of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N6 last August 2017 in the provinces of Pampanga and Nueva Ecija;

**WHEREAS**, some of the laboratory detection of the virus in samples came from apparently healthy animals;

**WHEREAS**, one mode of transmission is through contact with sick/dead birds and/or contaminated materials;

**WHEREAS**, there is movement of different birds/poultry (at different stages of production), within the country;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to regulate the movement of the abovementioned to prevent the possible spread of disease through accreditation and test/s required as stipulated in existing policies;

**WHEREAS**, not all birds/poultry (at different stages of production) come from sources accredited by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI);

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to conduct rapid field screening test for AI to assist in surveillance/monitoring activities, facilitate farm accreditation process, and expedite compliance with requirements for local transport of birds/poultry (at different stages of production);

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Dr. Ronnie D. Domingo, Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Director, BAI, by virtue of the authority given to me, hereby authorize the use of rapid test kits for the screening of poultry subject to the following conditions:

- a. The rapid test kit is duly registered with the Animal Feeds, Veterinary Drugs and Biologics Control Division (AFVDBCD) of BAI;
- b. The rapid test kit is used by or under the supervision of a trained government technical personnel and authorized by the BAI Director or his duly authorized representative;  
*and*

- c. The rapid test kit is to be used only at identified veterinary quarantine checkpoint stations or identified areas in the place of origin.

Animals yielding positive results from the rapid test kit/s shall not be allowed for transport and shall be subjected to the confirmatory RT-PCR test at the BAI-Animal Disease Diagnostic and Reference Laboratory (RADDL). If testing is done in live bird markets/veterinary quarantine checkpoint station, the birds will be held by the veterinary quarantine personnel or local government unit (LGU) veterinarian at a designated area within the vicinity pending advice from his direct supervisor or official authority.

For compliance.



**RONNIE D. DOMINGO, DVM, MSc**