



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region III
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF PAMPANGA

July 23, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 432, s. 2026

**CONDUCT OF THE LUNAS ESKWELA RESEARCH PROTOCOL AND STUDY IN
SELECTED SCHOOLS OF THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OF PAMPANGA**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Division Chiefs
Public Schools District Supervisors
Public and Private Secondary School Heads Concerned
School Health Personnel
All Others Concerned

1. In reference to Regional Memorandum No. 233, s. 2026, titled "Conduct of LUNAS Eskwela Research Protocol and Study in Region III Schools," this Office announces the conduct of the LUNAS Eskwela Research Protocol and Study in selected public and private secondary schools in the Schools Division of Pampanga.
2. The study, entitled "LUNAS Eskwela: Exploring the Acceptability and Feasibility of School-Based HIV Testing Among High School Students in the Philippines," is being conducted by the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) in collaboration with the Department of Education. The research aims to generate evidence that will support the development of responsive school health interventions and policies on HIV prevention and adolescent health.

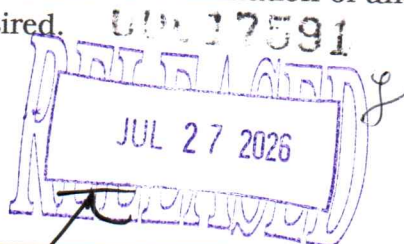
3. The following schools have been identified as research sites:

SCHOOL NAME	SCHOOL ID
Villa Maria Integrated	300908
Lourdes School of Pampanga	401138
Cansinala National High School	300885
Divine Wisdom School of Palmayo, Inc	401118
Holy Cross Institute	401136
Assumpta Technical High School	401192



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4. School Heads of the identified schools are hereby directed to:
- a. Coordinate with the assigned RITM research team regarding the schedule and conduct of research activities;
 - b. Extend the necessary administrative and logistical support to facilitate the smooth implementation of the study;
 - c. Designate a school focal person to assist the research team during the conduct of the study;
 - d. Ensure that participation of learners is voluntary and that all prescribed informed consent and assent procedures are strictly observed; and
 - e. Ensure compliance with existing DepEd policies on child protection, data privacy, research ethics, and confidentiality throughout the conduct of the study.
5. School Health Personnel are requested to provide appropriate technical assistance and coordination, whenever necessary, during the implementation of the research activities.
6. The research team from the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) shall ensure that all activities are conducted in accordance with approved research protocols, ethical standards, and applicable Department of Education issuances.
7. For inquiries and coordination, concerned schools may contact:
- Ms. Thea Bravo
Research Staff, Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM)
Email: lunas.eskwela@ritm.gov.ph
Mobile No.: 0993-874-0512
8. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum is desired.



ROMEO M. ALIP, PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent