**File S1. Budget calculation based on data utilized from the results in this study**

**Standard strategy**

(All samples with anti-HCV reactive will be confirmed active infection with RNA assay)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Assay** | **Sample number**  | **Unit cost**  | **Total cost**  |
|   | **THB** | **USD** | **THB** | **USDb** |
|  | Anti-HCV  | 298 | 250 | 8 | 74,500 | 2,237 |
|   | HCV RNA  | 290a | 2,000 | 60 | 58,0000 | 1,7417 |
| **Total budget** |   |   |   | **654,500** | **19,655** |

aAll samples with anti-HCV S/CO ≥ 1.0 were subsequently determined presence of HCV infection by RNA testing. One USD approximately equal to 33.3 THB. bOne USD approximately equal to 33.3 THB (Average Selling Rates, Bank of Thailand on 25/09/2017).

**Optional strategy**

(All samples with anti-HCV reactive with S/CO ≥ 5.0 will be confirmed active infection with HCV Ag assay. Only sample with anti-HCV reactive/HCV Ag non-reactive will be confirmed by RNA assay.)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Assay** | **Sample number**  | **Unit cost**  | **Total cost**  |
|   | **THB** | **USD** | **THB** | **USDb** |
|  | Anti-HCV  | 298c | 250 | 8 | 74,500 | 2,237 |
|  | HCV Ag | 252d | 800 | 24 | 201,600 | 6,054 |
|   | HCV RNA  | 32 | 2,000 | 60 | 64,000 | 1,922 |
| **Total budget** |   |   |   | **340,100** | **10,213** |

bOne USD approximately equal to 33.3 THB (Average Selling Rates, Bank of Thailand on 25/09/2017). cSamples with anti-HCV S/CO ≥ 5.0 were subsequently determined presence of HCV infection by HCV Ag testing. dSamples with discordant results of positive HCV antibody but negative to HCV Ag.

Different cost between standard and optional strategy:

654,500 – 340,100 = 314,400 Bath (~ 9441 USD)

**Budget reduction = 48%**