

Micro-cost Template Model Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: How can I use this information?

A: This information may be used to help explain the cost of NGS to payers and other financial entities.

Q: How do I add a line into the template model?

A: Right click the row number where you would like to insert a row and click insert.

Q: How do I link a value to a cell in the detailed model tab of the template model?

A: Cells may be linked by typing a “=” in the cell where you would like the value to end up. Next click the value that you would like to link to and press the “enter” key.

Q: How do I add a new consumable cost?

A: In the supplies tab, scroll down to row 148 then type in the item, number of units in a package and the price of the package. Then divide the price by the unit to get a per unit price.

Q: How do I add a new equipment cost?

A: In the supplies tab, scroll down to row 179 then type in the item, useful life years and price of the item. The price per minute will calculate automatically.

Q: How do I add a personnel cost item?

A: In the labor tab, scroll down to rows 14-21 then type in the description and average annual salary. The rate per minute will calculate automatically.

Q: Where can I find information on pricing for my model?

A: You may be able to find information on vendor websites, through past invoices and by talking to those involved with finances at your institution.

Q: Why is my summary calculator is not working?

A: Check that you have entered your average batch size in cell 29D.

Q: What is the difference between long term and short term data storage long term?

A: For the purpose of this model, we have considered post-results data to be long term. This long term data is often stored on a hospital server or back-up system for up to 7 years. Short term data is patient data that is needed during the analysis of a sample.

Q: How do I compare my costs to other laboratories?

A: After entering all of your information into the template model there is a summary calculator in rows 29-49 that may be directly compared to the summary model data aggregation page.