

Herbert OKs new budget for senior citizens' vaccines

By Rio N. Araja

QUEZON City Mayor Herbert Bautista has signed a measure approving a budget allocation for free pneumococcal vaccination to the city's registered senior citizens.

Bautista backed City Ordinance 2699 that provides for the free vaccination to be administered by the health department, subject to the availability of 23-valent polysaccharide vaccine.

The ordinance noted there is a need to amend an earlier measure to provide a definite allocation for the purchase and acquisition of the vaccine to sufficiently supply the needs of senior citizens who are not yet vaccinated.

Section 8 of City Ordinance No. SP-2381 of 2015 provided that an initial budget of at least P12 million would be divided equally among the city's six districts subject to existing auditing rules and procedures.

"It is the objective of the city government to ensure proper budget allocation of the annual funds to augment the pneumococcal vaccination of seniors that shall be included in the next annual budget of Quezon City," the ordinance read.

Meanwhile, the city's health department announced the temporary transfer of its frontline services to various health centers as its main building inside the city hall compound is undergoing renovation.