

## QC councilors ask DoH to aid residents vaccinated with Dengvaxia

By Rio N. Araja

THE 37-member Quezon City council has passed a resolution calling on the Department of Health to grant medical assistance to city residents inoculated with the Dengvaxia vaccine.

City Resolution 7469 stipulated that after the anti-dengue vaccine has been administered to school children, French pharmaceutical giant Sanofi Pasteur then announced that Dengvaxia could cause severe cases of dengue fever to those who had not been previously infected by the dengue virus.

"The city government with the aid of the Department of Health should extend medical assistance in order to alleviate the plight of the inoculated victims," the resolution read.

In December 2017, as reported by Health Secretary Francisco Duque III, the latest data from the World Health Organization confirmed an "earlier hypoth-

esis" that those inoculated with a dengue vaccine without prior infection could be at a higher risk of contracting more severe forms of the illness.

From April 2016, DoH reported more than 830,000 children have been vaccinated with Dengvaxia.

Meanwhile, Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte backed the enactment into law of the Philippine Identification System Act, saying "innocent citizens have nothing to fear with the national ID system."

"I'm in favor of the national ID system because I think that it is important that every citizen has proper identification and can be traced. When a citizen has not done anything wrong, there is nothing to fear," she said.

President Rodrigo Duterte signed the law designed to wipe out corruption and red tape, speed up the delivery of government services and assist law enforcement for public safety, despite concerns the national ID system may pose risks to privacy and data security.



Quezon City Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte and the Quezon City Police District bagged awards as part of the activities of the 23rd Police Community Relations Month of the National Capital Region Police Office. Belmonte was recognized as the Outstanding Local Executive of the Year while the QCPD was named 'Outstanding Police District'. Presenting the award to Belmonte were (from left) Chief of Regional Chief Directorial Staff PSSupt. Crizaldo Nieves, Deputy Regional Director for Administration PCSupt. Joel Napoleon Coronel, NCRPO Director PCSupt. Guillermo Eleazar, Director for Police Community Relations PDir. Eduardo Serapio Garado, and QCPD Chief PSSupt. Joselito Esquivel. **Manny Palmero**