

QC govt reports lower number of dengue cases this year

THE Quezon City government is ready for any eventuality even as it recorded a lower number of dengue cases in the first seven months of 2019 compared to the previous two years.

In a report, the **Quezon City Health Office** noted that from January to July 13, , the number of dengue cases is pegged at 2,218, with 19 casualties.

In 2017, the city recorded 7,527 dengue cases with 75 deaths while there were 8,158 cases with 74 deaths in 2018.

Despite this, Mayor **Joy Belmonte** said the city government will not keep its guard down and continue its aggressive campaign against dengue.

Last year, Belmonte noted the peak in dengue cases from August 4 to 10 and September 29 to October 25.

As part of its efforts to combat den-

gue, the city has made sure that rapid diagnostics tests or NS1 are always available in health centers to help doctors diagnose and assess dengue cases.

Belmonte said the local government also has a referral mechanism in place for patients with warning signs of dengue and need hospitalization.

Aside from this, the city government is also closely monitoring the top 10 barangays with the highest number of dengue cases, including Payatas A and B, Commonwealth, Batasan, Fairview, Kamuning, Tatalon, Pasong Tamo, Tandang Sora, Bagong Silangan and Bagbag.

Meanwhile, Belmonte allayed fears about the spread of leptospirosis, saying the city's health centers have enough supply of medicines.