

QC eyes color-coded IDs for seniors during GCQ

The Quezon City government is looking at the possibility of implementing a color-coded scheme for new identification cards to be issued to the city's senior citizens to ensure they are properly guided when the general community quarantine (GCQ) is implemented.

Mayor Joy Belmonte confirmed that requiring all residents 60 years old and above to wear a "color ID" is already one of their options, although they will finalize it once there are updated guidelines from the national government.

Belmonte said this does not automatically exempt senior citizens from the community quarantine.

"This is not even their travel pass that can exempt them from GCQ guidelines. They cannot just roam the streets during this period," she said.

City officials said any local regulations will be coordinated and approved by

the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) on Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases, which hinted that it may consider giving exemptions to senior citizens after announcing that those who are 60 and above are still not allowed to go out of their homes in areas under GCQ.

Quezon City and the rest of Metro Manila are still under enhanced community quarantine and the IATF has yet to determine if the ECQ can be eased.

"If some of our senior citizens were able to use quarantine passes, perhaps it would be better to wear a new ID that can easily identify them as senior citizens," Belmonte said.

"They will still be properly guided by local authorities and volunteers in social distancing and other preventive measures against coronavirus disease 2019 infection in an out of their homes," she added.

