

QC creates vaccine task force

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THE city government has created a task force to ensure the expeditious and orderly acquisition and distribution of coronavirus vaccine once it is available, Quezon City Mayor Jose-fina Belmonte said on Sunday.

Task Force “Vax to Normal” is composed of heads of various offices of the local government and representatives from private stakeholders.

“We are organizing early to ensure that the directions set by the national government will be followed, and that those who need the vaccine most are prioritized,” Belmonte said.

The task force will see to it that the priority sectors for inoculation will be the first to get the vaccine.

Based on national guidelines, those who will be prioritized are health workers, senior citizens, indigent and vulnerable sectors, frontliners, essential workers, soldiers, policemen, uniformed personnel, and business essential workers.

The city is finalizing the database of those in the priority list.

The task force will also select and acquire the vaccine or vaccines authorized for use based on effectiveness and practical considerations such as storage, handling, equipment and training requirements.

It will study the possibility of direct procurement under applicable laws, subject to the guidelines and approval of the national government.

The task force will select vaccination centers, storage areas for vaccines, transportation, mobilization, funding and information dissemination.