

## QC identifies 24 vaccination sites

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The Quezon City government has identified 24 sites for the upcoming rollout of the vaccination against COVID-19.

“We have secured 24 vaccination sites. These are the ones with staff and personnel available,” Mayor Joy Belmonte said at a press briefing yesterday. “As soon as the plans have been beefed up with the church and the academe, of course we are open to adding more vaccination centers.”

The Dioceses of Cubao and Novaliches have offered the use of their parishes as inoculation sites.

Several universities in the city have also expressed commitment to support the vaccination drive, Belmonte said.

Joseph Juico, head of the city’s task force in charge of the vaccination program, said they have 315 health workers who could be deployed for the vaccination program.

“We can increase that but we might end up leaving our health centers unattended,” Juico said, adding that they would coordinate with the private sector to tap more medical practitioners to assist in the vaccine rollout.

The city government has identified a total of 1,046,027 residents who would be prioritized in the vaccination.

These include 3,292 city health workers, 18,325 private health sector personnel, 1,410 barangay health emergency response teams, 300,000 senior citizens, 703,000 indigent residents, 20,000 elderly with disabilities and 20,000 uniformed personnel.

With five inoculators per site, Juico said they would be able to vaccinate 252,000 people per month, enabling them to reach the 1.6 million target – which represents 80 percent of the city’s adult population – in six to eight months.

Belmonte said adding more sites would further shorten the vaccination period, although it would also depend on the availability of the vaccines.