

QC prepares Covid inoculation sites

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Daily Tribune (Philippines) · 7 Feb 2021 · A7 · BY PAULA ANTOLIN @tribunephil_phau

The Quezon City (QC) local government has intensified its preparations of an initial 24 coronavirus disease (Covid-19) inoculation sites.

Officials from the QC Health Department (HD) and Zuellig Pharmaceutical Company, together with the City Engineering Department, General Services Department and Information Technology Development Department, led the inspection of triage areas.

The chosen sites are all public schools, because these are the most strategic and efficient venues for the inoculation.

The schools have ample space to ensure the free movement of personnel and to implement social distancing. They are also the nearest venues from health centers, where the vaccines coming from Zuellig to a cold storage facility will be stored.

Each inoculation site will have a waiting, registration, counselling and screening areas, and vaccination and observation rooms.

The QC government and Zuellig made sure that each vaccination site has a unidirectional workflow, or one entry and one exit, and comfort rooms.

The site, specifically from the waiting area to the screening area, should be well-ventilated. Separate rooms will be made available for the vaccination and observation of the patient after receiving the dose.

Dr. Esperanza Anita Escaño-Arias, QCHD chief, said the vaccine is very sensitive, so it cannot be exposed to direct sunlight.

“To avoid wastage of the vaccine, the vaccination itself should take place in a covered facility. The vaccine is very sensitive especially to sunlight,” Arias said.

Twenty-two employees will be designated per vaccination site. Each team is composed of physicians, marshals, vaccinators, counselors, and admin staff.

There will also be a generator set on standby, and an ambulance from the Barangay Health Emergency and Response Team.

Aside from the schools, more sites will be added as the city finalizes its talks with the Dioceses of Cubao and Novaliches who both offered their parishes as inoculation venues.