

## 4 persons who attended Locsin's pantry tested

Daily Tribune (Philippines) · 29 Apr 2021 · A8 · BY PAULA ANTOLIN @tribunephil\_phau

The Quezon City local government has conducted Covid-19 testing on four individuals who sought the city's free swab service after going last week to Angel Locsin's community pantry, which was considered a mass gathering.

Dr. Rolando Cruz, City Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit (CESU) chief, said three of the individuals who booked appointments with the city were asymptomatic or showed no symptoms, while the other one was experiencing headache, loss of smell and loss of taste.

"Today is the fifth day since Ms. Locsin's event.

The average incubation period for Covid-19 is approximately five days. So, we call on everyone who went to last Friday's gathering. Please report to us and have yourself tested. If there was a transmission and you were exposed, you may observe some symptoms manifesting starting today," Cruz explained.

Affected residents may book an appointment online at <http://bit.ly/QCfreetest> or through the CESU Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/EpidemiologyDiseaseSurveillance/>.

They may also call the QC contact tracing hotlines at 8703-2759, 8703-4398, 0916-122-8628, 0908-639-8086 and 0931-095-7737.

Cruz said, since Friday, CESU has been receiving an average of 950 swab test requests daily, while around 600 per day were approved or conducted.

"The city screens individuals who can avail of the free swab services, so we can allocate our supplies to those who need it most," he said.

Residents who are prioritized for swab testing are those who went to Locsin's community pantry, close contacts or those who were exposed to Covid-positive patients, those who are experiencing symptoms, those who are pregnant, dialysis patients, and those who will undergo medical operations and need Covid-19 test results.

Cruz reminded that booking can be made Mondays to Fridays. The swab testing is strictly by appointment, and no walk-ins are allowed.