

QC prepares for Delta variant

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The **Quezon City government** has formed the Delta Variant Task Force to prepare for a possible surge in Covid-19 infections resulting from the Delta variant first detected in India even as the city's Covid-19 positivity rate has declined to 5 percent.

It identified key areas to concentrate on, including revisiting the city's disease surveillance, active case finding and contact tracing capacity; its testing capability and the efficiency of its molecular laboratory in processing specimens; reviewing its isolation and quarantine protocols and the status and bed capacity of its HOPE facilities; and assessing equipment and manpower resources of hospitals handling moderate to severe cases.

The Task Force Disiplina was also ordered to ramp up monitoring and inspection, to ensure that minimum health protocols are followed in all public places.

According to the OCTA Research Group, the city's positivity rate, which was previously at 6 percent since 22 to 28 June has now reached the rate set by the World Health Organization at which infections are less likely to occur. It is even lower than the prevailing NCR rate of six percent.

The OCTA also reported that the average number of cases per day in the city has decreased to 123 from 141 cases last week. The reproduction number is at .86, while the average daily attack rate per 100,000 is 3.91, also lower than the week before.