

COVID-19 HITS 2 QC CONVENTS

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According to the report of the Quezon City Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit (CESU), the virus infected 114 individuals -- 61 nuns and 53 staff -- at Religious of the Virgin Mary (RVM) convent in Barangay Kaunlaran, New Manila, QC.

CESU said that out of the 114 infected persons, 22 are asymptomatic, 86 are mild, four are moderate, and two are severe cases.

The two severe cases are now being treated at the ICU, according to CESU.

The convent is now under granular lockdown.

At least 22 COVID-19 cases were also recorded in the Convent of the Holy Spirit, also in Quezon City.

According to the city government, the religious institution has 90 residents.

Contact tracing and investigation are still being carried out.

The convent is now under special concern lockdown.

On Sept. 9, 122 children and personnel of the Gentle Hands Orphanage in Barangay Bagumbuhay, Quezon City also tested positive for COVID-19.

The Quezon City Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit (CESU) are investigating the possible cause of the COVID-19 outbreak in the two convents.

According to CESU chief Dr. Rolando Cruz, they noticed the situation in RVM after the cases were recorded in the surveillance data reported by a testing laboratory.

"Hindi po tayo ang nag-swab sa kanila. Nagpa-test po sila sa iba at nang lumabas na ang resulta sa laboratory, na-record ito sa surveillance data," he said.

"Now, our team is conducting an investigation and intensive contact tracing to get more details about the matter," he added.

Cruz also said that they will also determine if any of the positive individuals in the convent had close contacts outside the institution.

Mayor Joy Belmonte reminded the public and administrators of closed settings to observe minimum health protocols.

"Patuloy po ang pagpapaalala natin na doblehin ang pag-iingat at agad na tumawag sa ating CESU kung may nakitaan ng sintomas sa inyong mga kasama. Mahalaga na maaga at maagap ang ating pagkilos para maiwasan ang mas maraming hawahan. Lagi naman tayong nakahandang rumesponde," she said.