

## Covid cases rise in QC

The Manila Times · 13 Jun 2022 · A9

THE Quezon City government raised its Covid-19 early warning level to “yellow” status after it recorded an average of 26 cases per day the past week.

The city’s Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit (CESU) on Sunday said that the average positivity rate doubled to 3.10 percent from 1.50 percent from May 27 to June 2 and the estimated reproduction number climbed to 3.4 percent from 1.1 percent last week.

CESU chief Dr. Rolando Cruz said there is a possibility that cases will spike in the next two weeks.

Cruz said the locally developed monitoring system is used for internal reporting only and should not be confused with the official alert levels issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID).

Under the city’s system, a white status is raised when Covid-19 cases are below average and all data indicators are considered stable. A yellow alert is raised when cases are seen increasing and when three of four indicators have increased from normal to above normal. The alert is raised to red when cases continue to rise and all other indicators remain high or have breached the indicated threshold. This indicates the start of a surge.

“Our local early warning system is helpful in assessing the pandemic within our city only. It aids our department as well as our city officials in the systematic monitoring of new cases, analysis of trends and recommendation of strategic measures to prevent the further spread of infections. Official alert level announcements and general guidelines will still come from the IATF,” Cruz said.

Mayor Josefina “Joy” Belmonte reminded citizens to continue observing preventive measures such as wearing of masks as well as getting vaccinated and boosted.

“We have come a long way but the virus is still with us. Again, we call on our residents to remain vigilant,” Belmonte said in a statement.

She called on those who have yet to get their vaccine or booster shot to visit the nearest barangay (village) health center or to register online via <https://qceservices.quezoncity.gov.ph/qcvaxeasy>.

As of June 4, the city had 123 active Covid-19 infections.