- Monkeypox

Quezon City records 1st case of mpox

Manila Bulletin · 1 Sep 2024 · 8 · By HANNAH NICOL

The Quezon City local government announced the first recorded case of mpox in the city on Saturday, Aug. 31, one week after the Department of Health (DOH) reported the country's first case this year.

According to the city government, the patient, a 37-year-old male resident of the city, is currently admitted at San Lazaro Hospital.

The patient began experiencing symptoms on Aug. 16. Six days later, he was taken to the hospital.

On August 26, medical personnel collected a specimen for testing, which was sent to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM). It was tested positive for mpox.

The Quezon City Health Department's Epidemiology and Surveillance Division (QCHD-QCESD) reported that the patient had recently traveled locally.

"Sa ngayon, mahigpit nating binabantayan ang kalagayan ng residente. Natukoy na rin natin ang 15 contacts niya at patuloy natin silang mino-monitor (As of now, we are closely monitoring the condition of the resident. We have also identified 15 of his close contacts and continue to monitor them)," Mayor Joy Belmonte said.

In addition to the city's first mpox case, the Quezon City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (QCESD) is also actively monitoring individuals who were exposed to an mpox case at a Spa and a club. Both facilities have been temporarily closed by the city government.

Health officials were conducting contact tracing and monitoring any potential spread of the virus within the community.

The city has implemented its prevention, control, and response protocols.

All healthcare workers in the city will receive training on reporting and managing mpox cases.

Belmonte has urged establishment owners to cooperate with the city's contact tracing efforts to help prevent the spread of the virus and ensure the safety and welfare of Quezon City residents.

The local government has established the QC Task Force MPOX under Executive Order 14, series of 2024.

It is composed of multiple city government departments and offices working together to combat mpox.