- Monkeypox

QC tells residents: Take preventive measures vs mpox

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The Quezon City government has reminded residents to take preventive measures against mpox after it confirmed two new cases in the city.

The QC Epidemiology and Surveillance Division (QCESD) said the second and third cases, a 29-year-old male and 36-year-old male, are currently undergoing home isolation and receiving treatment.

The 29-year-old patient tested positive on Aug. 30 and appears to be one of the three cases announced by the Department of Health (DOH) on Sept. 1.

But the 36-year-old, who tested positive on Sept. 5, is still not among the cases confirmed by the DOH.

Based on the DOH records, the country has so far reported 17 confirmed mpox cases since last year. Eight of these tested positive this year and are still active.

The first mpox patient in Quezon City was tagged by the DOH as Case 11.

Mayor Joy Belmonte reminded residents to regularly wash hands and keep distance from people showing symptoms of mpox.

“Mpox is not a joke. Its effects are severe, especially for those with weakened immune systems, so it’s very important that we take precautions to avoid getting the virus and prevent spreading it,” Belmonte said.

“If you have symptoms of mpox, go immediately to the nearest health center or hospital for a check-up. We will not abandon you, and the local government is ready to assist you for your quick recovery,” she added.

Belmonte said the QCESD is conducting contact tracing efforts and is closely monitoring those who have been exposed to the patients.

The city earlier formed a task force to streamline and strengthen the city’s response to the viral illness. It was also mandated to prepare an emergency or epidemic plan.