



Republic of the Philippines
Quezon City
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 18
Series of 2020

**AN ORDER ON STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM
IN QUEZON CITY BY INSTITUTIONALIZING THE EPIDEMIOLOGY AND
SURVEILLANCE UNIT (QCESU) UNDER THE QUEZON CITY HEALTH
DEPARTMENT, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS, AND COMPOSITION IN
COMPLIANCE TO THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 11332, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS "MANDATORY REPORTING OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES AND
HEALTH EVENTS OF PUBLIC CONCERN ACT."**

WHEREAS, On January 2019, The Department of Health (DOH) declared a Measles Outbreak in the National Capital Region. As of September 14, 2019, a total of 2,190 cases of Measles with 43 Death, were reported to the Quezon City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit. World Health Organization reported in April 2019 the Philippines is the fifth country with the highest number of reported measles cases since 2018;

WHEREAS, On July 2019, DOH declared a National Dengue Alert, with 106,630 Dengue cases reported through the Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (PIDSR) System from January 1 to June 20, 2019, including 456 Deaths;

WHEREAS, On September 2019, Polio re-emerge in the Philippines after 19 years since the last case of Wild Polio was reported in 1993. Department of Health declared a Polio Outbreak in the Philippines. On January 2020, Quezon City reported its first polio cases. A case of 4-year-old boy from Barangay Batasan Hills;

WHEREAS, On January 30, 2020, World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of 2019-nCoronavirus in Wuhan, China as a **PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN**. On the same day, Philippines announced its first case of the novel coronavirus;

WHEREAS, On March 8, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, Series of 2020 declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines amid Covid-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II, of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the state shall protect and promote the right of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Section 2, on declaration of Policy of Republic Act 11332, otherwise known as the "Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Concern Act", declared that it is the policy of the state to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. It shall endeavor to

protect the people from public health threats through the efficient and effective disease surveillance of notifiable diseases including emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, diseases for elimination and eradication, epidemics, and health events including chemical, radio-nuclear and environmental agents of public health concern and provide an effective response system in compliance with 2005 International Health Regulations (IHR) of the World Health Organization (WHO);

WHEREAS, on the same declaration of policy, the state also recognizes the disease surveillance and response system of the Department of Health and its local counterpart, as the first line of defense to epidemics and health events of public concern that pose risk to public health and security;

WHEREAS, Section 6, of Republic Act 11332, the DOH and its LOCAL COUNTERPART are mandated to implement the mandatory reporting of notifiable diseases and health events of public concern;

WHEREAS, Section 8, Establishment of Epidemiology and Surveillance Units, of Republic Act 11332, provides that DOH in coordination with Local Government Units, shall ensure that the Epidemiology and Surveillance Units (ESUs) are established and functional in all levels of DOH and its local counterparts, and in public and private health facilities and laboratories, as well as ports and airports in all provinces, cities and municipalities throughout the country;

WHEREAS, Section 16, of the 1991 Local Government Code of the Philippines states that; Within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology, encourage and support the development of appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, improve public morals, enhance economic prosperity and social justice, promote full employment among their residents, maintain peace and order, and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE, Mayor of Quezon City, by powers vested in me by law, do hereby constitute "THE QUEZON CITY EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DISEASE SURVEILLANCE UNIT (QCESU)" of the City Health Department.

SECTION 1. QUEZON CITY EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DISEASE SURVEILLANCE UNIT (QCESU). The QCESU shall be a unit under the Planning, Evaluation, Research and Training Division (PERT) of the City Health Department, which shall be streamlined and strengthened to ensure implementation of a robust public health surveillance and response system in Quezon City.

SECTION 2. FUNCTIONS. The QCESU shall have the following functions:

2.1 Manage an early warning public health surveillance and response system within the geographic jurisdiction of Local Government of Quezon City, using the Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response System (PDSR) and the Event-based Surveillance (ESR). This will involve mandatory

reporting of notifiable diseases by all health centers, local and private hospitals, private clinics and laboratories within Quezon City.

- 2.2 Provide epidemiological reports on notifiable diseases including vaccine preventable diseases and health events to Office of the Mayor, policy makers, program managers and other key stakeholders.
- 2.3 Maintain special surveillance operations (HIV Surveillance, STI Laboratory Surveillance, Non-communicable Disease Surveillance).
- 2.4 Conduct field epidemiologic investigations, including the following:
 - 2.4.1 Outbreak Investigations
 - 2.4.2 Event-based investigations
- 2.5 Conduct special surveys (e.g. Integrated HIV Behavioral and Serologic Survey) and scientific research.
- 2.6 Provide technical assistance and capacity building activities related to Epidemiology and disease surveillance.
- 2.7 Conduct rapid health assessment during calamities, disasters and or emergencies.
- 2.8 Establish disease surveillance in evacuation centers during disaster or calamities.
- 2.9 Establish networks with other government and non-government agencies such as the Department of Health Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Units, Department of Science and Technology, Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, World Health Organization.

SECTION 3. COMPOSITION. The Quezon City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit shall be composed of the following:

1. One (1) Head (designated as City Epidemiologist) - the unit will be headed by a Medical Doctor or any allied Medical Health Worker, with graduate training on Applied or Field Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance by the Department of Health or any equivalent training from recognized educational institutions.
2. Six (6) Disease Surveillance Officers (DSO) - a Nurse or Medical Technologist or any allied Medical Health Workers with basic and advance training on Epidemiology, Disease Surveillance, and Event-based Surveillance, or who are available and willing to undergo such trainings.
3. Two (2) Surveillance Information Technology Officers - a graduate of Information Technology or related course.


4. Three (3) Surveillance Clerks (Encoders) - must have working knowledge on Microsoft excel, word and power point
5. One (1) Driver - must have a professional driver license

SECTION 4. DISSEMINATION. A copy of the Executive Order shall be furnished to the office of the office of the Regional Director of the Department of Health, Center of Health Development, Metro Manila to show the City's compliance with Section 8, of the Republic Act 11332 A copy of this Executive Order shall be furnished to the Office of the President and the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) for information and guidance, pursuant to Section 455 (1) (xii) of RA 7160, as amended, and shall be posted at the official website of the Quezon City Government.

SECTION 5. REPEALING CLAUSE. The provisions of previous orders and other related issuances inconsistent or contrary with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby revised, modified, repealed or rescinded accordingly. All other provisions of existing issuances which are not affected by this Order shall remain valid and in effect.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVITY. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Issued, 12 March 2020, Quezon City.


MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE
City Mayor