

Upcoming measures based on the current COVID-19 situation

December 9th, 2020
Kyoto Prefectural Government

Urgent calls to prevent medical collapse

On December 8th, 63 new infection cases were confirmed in the prefecture, the largest daily number of cases, and infections are rapidly spreading with an increase of about 50% compared to the previous week. There is great concern regarding the strained condition of medical institutions. 90% of infected people exhibit mild symptoms or are asymptomatic, and there is a possibility that the virus transmission is expanding without being noticed. In order to prevent further spread of the infection and to prevent the collapse of the medical care system in the prefecture, we urgently request that the behavior of residents and business operators be adjusted as follows:

① Urgently call for refraining from non-essential outings to areas where infections are spreading.

- Refrain from non-essential and non-urgent outings to areas where infections are spreading, such as Osaka Prefecture*. Be very careful, especially during dining occasions.
*Hokkaido, Ibaraki, Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Aichi, and Osaka prefectures, which are requesting shorter business hours for restaurants, etc.
- Take due considerations, and behave once again accordingly with regards to the need for travel to other regions or within the prefecture.

② Pay particular attention to prevent infections when dining out

- Strictly use outlets of business operators which display stickers of promoting infection prevention guidelines.
- Refrain from banquets and drinking parties that involve loud conversations and singing with large numbers of people.
- Consider a short period of time, about 2 hours, for parties or drinking.
- Refrain from attending if you have symptoms such as a fever.
- Use partitions between each dining table or arrange a table layout appropriately to make sure that the number of each party members is 4 people or less.

③ Thorough prevention of infection among university students

- Each university formulates infection prevention measures with a sense of crisis based on their own specific characteristics, and as a higher education institution, they take

responsibility for thoroughly implementing measures to prevent the spread of infection in all aspects of the lives of students in general.

- For university students, act with the awareness that each student is a member of society in all aspects of daily life, such as during extracurricular activities, part-time jobs, eating and drinking opportunities, dormitory life, etc.
- Quickly share information on the status of infection of students at the university health center and strengthen cooperation with public health centers.

④ Thorough prevention of infection of the elderly, etc.

- As a general rule, please refrain from visiting medical institutions and facilities for the elderly, etc.
- Those who are at risk of developing serious illnesses, such as the elderly, should refrain from visiting crowded areas and areas known for infections as much as is possible.
- When meeting with the elderly, etc., keep a close eye on your own physical condition and take thorough infection prevention measures.

Enhancement and strengthening of medical consultation and inspection system

Given the drastic increase of new infection cases, we will strengthen the consultation and medical examination system.

① Consultation system

Establish a system for consultations and medical examinations at nearby medical institutions and open joint helpdesks between Kyoto Prefecture and Kyoto City during holidays, at nighttime, and for those who don't have a family doctor.

Kyoto novel coronavirus medical consultation center

- Running from 1st November
- Open for 24 hours including during the New Year's holidays.
- Simultaneous interpreting with multiple languages available (English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish), and strengthening consultation systems in co-operation with the Kyoto Prefectural International Center.

② Inspection system

Expand medical institutions where people with symptoms such as fever can consult, receive an examination, and receive testing.

Medical institutions available for PCR testing (at present)

Clinics and hospitals - 661 locations

Hospitals for close-contact individuals - 57 locations

} Total of 718 locations

Kyoto testing centers - 5 locations

(One location in the northern area of the Prefecture will be added on December 22nd)

③ Hospitalization, institutional treatments, and at home treatment systems

Provide a sufficient medical care system under the hospitalization control center in response to efficient hospitalizations and appropriate treatments for those who have contracted the virus, as well as for seriously ill patients.

Hospitals accepting infected patients (at present)

Available hospital sickbeds - 680 beds (86 beds for seriously ill patients)

Care facilities - 338 rooms (currently in process of securing additional care facilities)

Strengthen the follow-up teams for those recovering at home system

A full-time nurse is assigned to follow-up information centers in order to share information closely with the inpatient medical control center, where doctors are stationed. Strive to understand the physical conditions of infected persons and to centrally manage information.