

December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Message from the Kyoto Prefectural Government, Kyoto Medical Association, etc.

An urgent message to the prefectural residents and business operators regarding how to spend the New Year's holidays to protect lives

The daily number of newly infection cases of Covid-19 in Kyoto Prefecture reached a record high of 107 on December 24<sup>th</sup>. The infection is expanding rapidly with the bed occupancy rate reaching at around 35%. The number of patients with severe symptoms surged to 20 on December 21<sup>st</sup>, and the hospitals admitting Covid-19 patients with severe symptoms are running out of capacity. If such a condition continues, there is a concern that medical institutions will have to suspend normal medical care for diseases such as cancer, stroke, as well as emergency medical treatment.

It is necessary to reduce chances of people going out and contacting infected people with no symptoms, and to suppress new infection cases in order to stop the further spread of infection. We ask for your cooperation to protect each and every one of the prefectural residents and their loved ones.

1. Please spend the New Year's holidays quietly!

During the year-end and New Year's holidays this year, please refrain from outing or returning hometown as much as possible, and spend a time with your family at home.

Please avoid crowded times for shrine visit as much as possible.

2. In principle, please dine with your family only!

Please try to refrain from dining with people other than your family or your support bubbles.

3. Please finish dining outside at or before 9 pm!

We are requesting restaurants and bars serving alcoholic beverages in Kyoto, in particular, where the infection is spreading, to shorten their business hours to 9pm until January 11<sup>th</sup> 2021. When having a meal with people outside, please limit the number of people up to 4 persons, and keep the length to 2 hours or shorter.

NISHIWAKI Takatoshi, Governor of Kyoto Prefecture

MATSUI Michinori, President of the Kyoto Medical Association

YAKU Hitoshi, Council for Presidents of Hospitals Treating COVID-19 Patients with Severe Symptoms in Kyoto Prefecture