

Emergency Request to Curb the Rapid Spread of the 5th Wave

— Areas under the pre-emergency measures have been expanded —

COVID-19 infections are spreading rapidly in Hyogo Prefecture, with the new cases reaching a record high of 728 on August 12 and the hospital bed occupancy rate exceeding 50%. If this trend continues, it may overwhelm the healthcare systems. Therefore, starting August 16, we will also apply the pre-emergency measures in the areas of Kita-Harima, Naka-Harima, Nishi-Harima, Tamba and Awaji, in addition to the current areas of Kobe, Hanshin-minami, Hanshin-kita, Higashi-Harima and Himeji. Each citizen, young people in particular, is requested to take responsible action with a strong will to stop the resurgence.

1. Avoid risky behavior

- Avoid unnecessary and non-urgent outings and travels during the daytime and at night. Please postpone or cancel hometown visits and trips.
- Do not dine in groups, hold house parties, or drink alcohol on the streets or in the parks.
- During club activities, take thorough infection prevention measures, such as wearing face masks during conversations, while being careful of heat stroke.
- Do not visit eating and drinking establishments that do not follow our request to shorten business hours or that do not take thorough infection prevention measures (e.g., installing acrylic partitions, keeping seats 1 or more meters apart).

2. Vaccination

- Vaccination prevents infection. Be careful not to be swayed by incorrect information about side effects and deaths caused by vaccination and consider vaccination based on correct information.

3. Request to business operators

- Eating and drinking establishments are requested to shorten business hours. Eating and drinking establishments in designated areas are requested to stop serving alcohol.
- Facilities that attract many visitors are requested to prevent the Three Cs by limiting entry of visitors and other measures.
- Clusters of infections at workplaces are increasing. Please make efforts to promote telecommuting and urge employees to take thorough infection prevention measures.

Saito Motohiko
Governor of Hyogo Prefecture