

Message from the Mayor of Fukushima City

Today, the first and second cases of Novel Coronavirus in Fukushima City were confirmed. Epidemiological investigations etc. based out of Fukushima City Health Center are proceeding expediently, those who have been in close contact are being ascertained, and all possible effort is being put into the implementation of measures to prevent the spread of infection.

Subsequent notifications will be made as further information comes to light regarding those who have been in close contact etc.

We would like to request the following of all citizens of Fukushima City.

Though, at this time, two cases have occurred, we request a calm response without excessive concern.

Two messages from the mayor have, to this date, been announced. We request that you check these once again, and be thorough in implementing basic infection countermeasures including hand washing, cough etiquette, and alcohol disinfection of hands.

Work towards the maintenance of your physical condition through appropriate nutrition, rest, and physical activity, and if you do develop symptoms including a fever etc., do not over exert yourself, take leave from your place of work or school, and avoid going outside.

We request your effort in avoiding, as much as possible, both creating or going near places where the 'Three Cs': ① Closed spaces with poor ventilation, ② Crowded places where large numbers of people gather, ③ Close-contact settings such as close-range conversations, occur simultaneously and there is a high risk of infection.

Moreover, while it is the flowering season, please leave flower-viewing (*hanami*) at appreciation, and avoid parties. We also ask you to please avoid, to the best of your ability, non-essential and non-urgent visits to Tokyo.

Those who have been experiencing cold-and-flu symptoms and a fever above 37.5 degrees for more than 4 days, and in addition also have strong fatigue and difficulty breathing, as well as those who are elderly or have underlying conditions etc. and have been experiencing such symptoms for more than 2 days,

should please consult over the phone, with the ‘Returned Persons & Contact Persons Consultation Center’ of the Fukushima City Health Center. Those who have returned from overseas and have concerning symptoms should please consult with the center as early as possible. If it is determined that you require an examination, you will be introduced as a ‘Returned Persons & Contact Persons outpatient’ and examined.

Fukushima City has established a separate dedicated consultation phone service that is also operating on weekends and holidays. Regardless of whether or not you have a fever or any respiratory symptoms, those who are worried or have any concerns should please consult with this service.

Furthermore, discriminatory language regarding the Novel Coronavirus has also been reported. We strictly request that you avoid human-rights infringements including bullying, or discrimination etc.

As Fukushima City, while continuing to maintain close connection with the nation, prefecture, and medical facilities, I would like to unite with all citizens, to put the greatest possible effort into preventing the spread of infection, and into an early recovery of the every-day lives and economic activities of citizens, in order to overcome this crisis.

In Fukushima City, a variety of information regarding the Novel Coronavirus is being uploaded to the Fukushima City Home Page. In addition to requesting that all citizens pay close attention to information hereafter announced by the nation, prefecture, and city, and be thorough in the implementation of infection prevention countermeasures, I also request that you remain calm and take action.

In addition, we also request the cooperation of all mass media in the ongoing provision of relevant information to all citizens.

31st March 2020

Mayor of Fukushima City Kohata Hiroshi