

Governor's Message: Emergency Request to Curb the Rapid Spread of the 4th Wave

COVID-19 infections are rapidly increasing in Hyogo Prefecture. The daily new case counts have exceeded 300 for several consecutive days and reached a record high of 507 on April 14. The medical system is in a critical situation with over 1,000 patients on the waiting list for hospitalization, and surgeries and emergency transportation are not available in some cases.

Therefore, we decided to expand the areas to be included under the pre-emergency measures and strengthen COVID-19 countermeasures.

We must curb the spread of infections by all means.

Hyogo citizens are requested to consider infection prevention as their personal responsibility and practice the following with a strong will of "Together We Prevent, Together We Fight against COVID-19."

Request to Hyogo citizens

1. Avoid outings

- Avoid unnecessary and non-urgent outings and travels throughout the prefecture. In particular, refrain from visiting areas under pre-emergency measures outside the prefecture, including Osaka.

2. Take caution when dining out

- Avoid visiting eating and drinking establishments and karaoke parlors that do not implement infection prevention measures. In particular, refrain from dining and drinking in areas under pre-emergency measures, including Osaka.
- Refrain from dining and drinking in large groups or for long hours (including parties, house parties, and afterparties).
- After dining with others, please take extra caution when coming into contact with other people for a certain period; be careful not to spread the virus.

3. Take caution at home

- Be careful not to bring the virus into your home. Avoid risky behavior and thoroughly implement basic infection prevention measures.
- Be careful not to spread the virus at home. Wash your hands when you return home, ventilate the rooms, and if a family member has a fever, prepare a private

room for the person and disinfect shared spaces.

- **Be careful not to spread the virus outside.** Manage the health of yourself and family members by checking temperatures daily, and seek advice from your family doctor when someone has symptoms such as fever.

4. Avoid risky behavior (especially for young people)

- **Avoid risky behavior** such as dining out.
- **Refrain from drinking in groups, including farewell/welcome parties, parties for incoming students, and house parties. Never drink on the street or in the parks.**
- **Avoid the three Cs when dining, drinking or having conversations** at cafeterias or other places in universities and companies.
- **Thoroughly implement infection prevention measures** by wearing face masks and sanitizing your hands **during school club or circle activities.**