

November 5, 2020

Governor's Message to Hyogo citizens and Hyogo-based business operators:
Take every measure to prevent COVID-19 infections!

Due to reasons such as clusters of infections in medical institutions and social welfare facilities, the daily number of confirmed cases in Hyogo Prefecture exceeded 20 on November 3, indicating that we have once again entered into the “infection rising” phase. The cause of these clusters is currently under investigation, but we should still be careful of the following “five situations” that have a risk of infection.

1. **Attending drinking parties**
2. **Dining and drinking in groups or for long hours**
3. **Having conversations without face masks**
4. **Co-living in small spaces and sharing communal spaces**
5. **Socializing in common areas such as rest area, smoking area, and changing room**

I would like to express my sincere respect and gratitude to healthcare workers and staff at social welfare facilities for providing medical and welfare services while taking infection prevention measures. I would like to ask for your continued efforts in preventing infections at your institutions and facilities and protecting the lives and health of patients and service users; hence, I once again request you to take extra caution towards the “five situations” and increase your awareness of the following:

[To healthcare workers and staff at social welfare facilities]

- To avoid bringing the virus to institutions or facilities, be sure to **implement employee health management thoroughly and urge visitors and contractors to take caution as well.**
- When using heaters in winter, **ventilate the rooms regularly and avoid the Three Cs (confined spaces, crowded places, and close contact).**
- In cases where infection is suspected at your institution or facility, **promptly contact the public health center or the Prefectural Health & Welfare Office of your region.**

I would like to ask Hyogo citizens for your continued understanding and cooperation on the following:

[To Hyogo-based citizens]

- **Avoid visiting facilities with higher risks of infections** that do not implement infection prevention measures based on each industry’s guidelines (in particular, eating and drinking establishments serving alcohol and/or providing individual customer services and karaoke parlors)
- Be sure to follow the “**Hyogo Style**” that includes wearing face masks.
- Please utilize the COVID-19 Contact Confirmation Application “**COCOA**” and the “**Hyogo new coronavirus tracing system.**”
- When visiting medical institutions and social welfare facilities, **take caution to prevent infections and follow instructions of the facilities.**

The infection mitigation depends on the efforts of each and every one of you, working together with the strong will of “**Together We Prevent, Together We Fight against COVID-19.**” Hence, I would like to ask all of you for your understanding and cooperation in order to prevent any further spread of infections.