

# A Message on Prevention of COVID-19 Outbreaks

## Oshu City Mayor

The number of infected persons around the nation started to increase at the end of last month, and signs of another spread are beginning to appear.

In Iwate Prefecture we hear that more than 200 infected persons are confirmed per day since March, and the spread of the new coronavirus has not stopped even within the jurisdiction of the Oshu Health Center. With that said, we urgently request that you renew efforts to prevent infection.

The number of infected persons per day within the jurisdiction of the Oshu Health Center has exceeded 40 since the end of March. On March 31, the number of newly infected persons per 100,000 for the previous week was 211.9, exceeding that of Morioka. In April, clusters at facilities for the elderly and involving sports activities have risen, and on April 7, the number of infected persons in a day reached a record high of 77.

Looking at the spread of and trends in infection, the number of children under the age of 10, especially in elementary schools and nursery schools, is increasing rapidly, leading to a rapid increase in the number of infections in the home. In order to stop the spread of infection, we ask all citizens to take the following measures to control infection.

- ① Please thoroughly confirm that you are taking basic measures to control infection with a sense of urgency. Such measures include wearing a mask properly (non-woven masks are recommended), washing and disinfecting hands and fingers, and avoiding the three Cs.
- ② If your class or school closes, or if you are asked to refrain from going to kindergarten or nursery school, please be sure to take basic measures to control infection, such as wearing a mask and

checking your physical condition on a daily basis, even at home.

- ③ If you have symptoms such as a fever, refrain from going to kindergartens, schools, and work. In such a case, please take all possible measures to prevent being infected, such as creating rules for distancing and avoiding contact in the home.
- ④ Please create a work environment where it is easy to take a vacation. Please work to reduce the number of employees at the worksite by utilizing telework, promoting vacations, and working in shifts.

The city is proceeding with a third vaccination to prevent the spread of infection at an early stage. Spaces are available for reservations depending on the group vaccination site, so if you have received a Vaccination Ticket, we recommend that you make a reservation as soon as possible.

In addition, vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 started on March 28. Please read the explanation included with the Vaccination Ticket and the notice from the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare to confirm the effectiveness and safety of vaccinations when considering vaccinations for children.

Discrimination, prejudice, and false accusations against infected persons, those who cannot receive vaccinations even if they wish to receive a vaccination due to various reasons such as chronic illness or underlying conditions, those who do not wish to receive a vaccination, and their families cannot be allowed. Please be considerate of others and act in a calm manner.

8 April 2022

Jun KURANARI, Mayor, Oshu City