

## **A message on prevention of COVID-19 outbreaks from Oshu City Mayor**

Since April 5, Miyagi and other prefectures have been designated areas under a quasi-State of Emergency based on the Special Measures Law, while Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, and Hyogo Prefectures have been designated areas under a State of Emergency from April 25 through May 11.

In Iwate, the number of new cases has risen sharply since the middle of March. Coupled with the variant strains that are feared to be spread, the situation is unpredictable.

Since the end of March, Oshu has confirmed new cases almost every day. Though the route of some infections have not been determined, others have been found within the home. The situation is unprecedentedly tense.

With this nationwide spread of infection, it is important to spend the Golden Week holidays in ways that will prevent the further spread of infection.

Residents have been thorough in taking measures to prevent infection, but we ask for your cooperation for the following measures to prevent infection before the Golden Week holidays.

### **[Refraining from unnecessary and unurgent travel]**

- From the viewpoint of preventing the spread of infection, please refrain from unnecessary and unurgent travel, such as returning home or other trips to and from areas under a State of Emergency or quasi-State of Emergency.
- Areas under a State of Emergency: Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, and Hyogo Prefectures
- Areas under a quasi-State of Emergency: Miyagi, Saitama, Chiba, Kanagawa, Aichi, Ehime, and Okinawa Prefectures
- When traveling to and from areas outside of the prefecture other than those listed above, check whether infections are spreading or whether you are requested to refrain from going out. Take care when making decisions.

### **[Be thorough in basic measures to prevent infection]**

- Strive to take basic measures to prevent infection, such as washing hands, always wearing masks, and avoiding the three Cs, not only in the workplace, but everywhere, including your home.

- When holding gatherings involving eating and drinking, avoid large numbers of participants and lengthy gatherings. Be cautious in situations where the risk of infection increases, such as holding conversations without using masks.
- “Shifting gears,” such as between work time and break time, tends to lead to lower awareness in preventing infection, such as holding conversations without masks. This increases the risk of infection, so please be strongly aware concerning the prevention of infection even in break rooms, smoking areas, dressing rooms, etc.

Actions such as discrimination, prejudice, or besmirching infected persons, those in close contact with them, medical workers, and their families cannot be allowed. Please take actions in a calm manner based on correct information.

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