

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

Due to an increase in the number of new coronavirus infections in the prefecture, the Iwate State of Emergency was declared on August 12. After that, the number of newly infected people remained high for a while, but it gradually decreased after September, and it was declared on September 16 that the number of newly infected people per 100,000 population in the last week fell below 10, and the declaration has been lifted.

Also within the jurisdiction of the Oshu Health Center, in which multiple newly infected persons had been confirmed almost daily since late July, has seen a rapid decrease to less than one person per day for the past week.

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to all the citizens for their cooperation in preventing the spread of infection, such as refraining from unnecessary and non-urgent outings and thoroughly implementing basic infection control measures.

Although the prefecture's state of emergency has been lifted, please do not let your guard down and take the following actions to prevent the spread of infection.

- Refrain from unnecessary and non-urgent homecomings or other travel to areas under a State of Emergency or quasi-State of Emergency.
- Take into careful consideration traveling to and from areas where infections are spreading.
- Thoroughly implement basic measures to control infection, such as by washing hands, disinfecting, and wearing a mask at all times, wherever you are.
- Even when there is no overlapping of the 3Cs, aim for “Zero Cs”

to reduce risks.

In Oshu City, we are making every effort so that those who wish to be vaccinated against the new coronavirus can do so as soon as possible.

The percentage of citizens who have completed two vaccinations is about 90% for those aged 65 and over, and more than 50% for all citizens. In the future, vaccinations for people under the age of 50 will be started in stages, and it is expected that most of the citizens who wish to receive vaccinations will be able to do so by December.

Vaccinations are not only for yourself and your loved ones, but are also as an important means of reducing the burden on medical institutions, so please be proactive in getting inoculated after thoroughly understanding the effects and side effects of the vaccine.

Firmly abstain from actions such as discrimination, prejudice, or besmirching infected persons, those in close contact with them, medical workers, and their families. Please act with compassion based on correct information.

Also, please strictly refrain from discrimination, prejudice, or besmirching related to vaccinations because there are people who want to receive the vaccination but cannot due to various health reasons.

17 September 2021

Masaki OZAWA, Mayor, Oshu City

