

Mayor's Message Regarding COVID-19 (March 12, 2021)

Greetings

Hello everyone, this is Mayor Hirose.

I would like to thank all citizens, those involved in medical care, welfare and all business workers for your deep understanding and cooperative efforts with regards to preventing the spread of COVID-19

Current Situation

The government ended the State of Emergency in Hyogo Prefecture on March 1st.

At the start of April the number of cases in Hyogo started to take a dip, but recently there has been a halt to the decrease in cases.

Again, due to the emergence of new mutant strains, and those who have become tired of practicing self-restraint - these different reasons are thought to have caused the recent halt in decreasing cases. There is the concern that a rebound of cases is expected because of this.

Even in the Tajima region, since entering this year there have been over 110 cases, with new cases being found even since entering March.

It is thought that the infection is spreading to more local areas from the city, and we must continue to be more wary of the situation.

Regarding Thorough Prevention Methods

Currently we ask that all citizens put their efforts into thoroughly abiding with prevention methods.

With the efforts of each citizen this will lead to lowering the number of cases, protecting our medical care system and important lives.

Currently I ask that we all go back to the basics of stopping the spread of infections by following the 3Cs, wearing a mask, washing your hands, sanitizing and avoiding unnecessary outings.

Again, as we approach the spring season, people will start moving around and many different events will be going on

Right now I ask that you all refrain from going on graduation trips, holding welcome and farewell parties and hanami/enkai, but to rather enjoy the flowers peacefully and quietly.

Regarding dining out, outside of your close family members we ask that you keep each group to under four people. When you are not eating and you decide to speak we ask that you wear a mask.

Again, I ask that you take your temperature everyday and to look after your health. If you start to have a fever or other symptoms - please contact your primary care physician by phone immediately.

Regarding Treatment of those with COVID

Recently on the internet the issue of slander and hate towards those with covid, close contact persons and medical care workers has been an issue.

Using the coronavirus as a reason to discriminate, hold prejudice and bully others shall not be forgiven. This could lead to those with symptoms to hide their accurate travel history, information regarding close contacts and avoid getting tested - this in return could lead to further spread of the virus.

The novel coronavirus is an illness that anyone can catch, we must return to a society where anyone can get treatment with ease, and return back to society. We must build a community framework where we can protect all infected persons as whole.

Ending Statement

The state of emergency has ended, but we ask that each and every person not lose their vigilance and continue to act cautiously to halt the spread of the virus.

This may cause an inconvenience in various instances to all of you, but to return back to our everyday lives as soon as possible we ask that we all come together as one to overcome this difficult situation.

Regarding the vaccines we will inform you once the time comes.

I ask for your understanding and efforts, thank you.