

Message from Chief of COVID-19 Response Headquarters (Mayor of Morioka) [Updated November 13]

On November 11th, Morioka has confirmed a group infection of COVID-19.

With the recent rise in cases which the source of infection is difficult to identify in Iwate including Morioka, it seems that the risk of community acquired infection is increasing.

Towards the end of the year, there will be events that can increase the risk of COVID-19 infection such as end of year parties, gatherings and homecomings. Once again, I would like to emphasize the importance of basic measures – “washing hands” and “wearing face masks” in addition to the “5 Risky Situations” indicated by Japanese Cabinet Secretariat – “gathering involving alcoholic beverages”, “eating and drinking long hours in a large group”, “conversation without wearing face masks”, “room/house sharing in a small accommodation” and “Switching from one place to another (changing rooms)”. Please try your best to avoid those 5 risky situations.

As for business owners, especially for those who own hospitality businesses, please ensure where exactly the 5 risky situations would occur in your restaurants or workplace and practice the guideline provided for each of the industries.

As winter approaches, it is critical to ventilate regularly and adjust room humidity. Please take full prevention measures thoroughly at your home, workplace and premises.

Please let me remind you that this virus can be transmitted to anyone. COVID-19 related prejudice or discriminatory attitudes will not only negatively impact the patients but the family and people surrounding them. Those attitudes can hold one back from going to get tested, providing accurate information to the regional health center and other uncooperative behaviors that can potentially associate with the spread of COVID-19 infection. Please do not slander or defame the patients.

In order to prevent the spread of the virus, it is necessary for each one of you to adhere the safety measures mentioned above.

I will continue to do my best to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection for the citizens of Morioka to be able to welcome the upcoming festive season with a smile.
Your support and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

November 12th, 2020

Tanifuji Hiroaki

Health Crisis Response Headquarter

Chief of COVID-19 Response Headquarters (Mayor of Morioka)