

Preparations henceforth for an influenza epidemic

23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2020

Kyoto Prefectural Government

## I. Strengthening of the Medical Examination System in preparation for an influenza epidemic

In the fall and winter of this year, it is possible that both seasonal influenza and COVID-19 infections will spread at the same time.

**At the peak, the expected number of tests needed are:**

Testing for new coronavirus infections 2,000 per day

7,500 tests per day associated with seasonal influenza epidemics

**A system for consultation and examination is necessary in response to these issues.**



In preparation for an influenza epidemic, it is necessary to develop a system in which people with symptoms such as a fever can receive medical consultations and examinations at nearby medical institutions, to clarify the objects of hospitalization measures, and to strengthen the health center system.



Based on national policy, strengthening of the medical examination system by the end of October

### ① Medical consultation and examination system

- Establishment of a system for medical consultations and examinations at local clinics
- Simultaneous testing for COVID-19 and influenza by using antigen test kits
- Nighttime and holiday medical consultation services are set up in cooperation with the prefectural and municipal governments.

### ② Medical Provision System Based on the Review of Hospitalization Recommendations

- Hospitalization, in principle, for elderly people, those at risk of serious illness, etc.
- Clarification of the operation of facilities and home care

### ③ Health center system

- Prioritize active epidemiological surveys and cluster responses in anticipation of an increase in the number of infected people
- Enhancement of follow-ups for home-care patients

# 1 Medical consultation and examination system

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, a new system was introduced to provide medical consultations and examinations for fevers etc. at nearby medical institutions.

## ① Establishment of a system for medical consultations and examinations at nearby medical institutions

- Establishment of a system that enables people with symptoms such as fever to consult at a local clinic
- If the hospital is unable to perform the test, the patient is referred to a nearby medical institution (community clinics and contact clinics) that can perform the test or the Kyoto Inspection Center.
- Secure nearby medical facilities that can perform tests for both COVID-19 and influenza using antigen test kits
- By the end of October, based on the opinions of experts and the community, we will designate local clinics where you can receive medical examinations and tests, and medical institutions for medical examination and treatment of high risk contacts (we plan to expand the number of those institutions as needed)

## ② COVID-19 Medical Consultation Center

- In cooperation with the prefecture and city governments, a medical consultation center has been established to accept consultations and examinations from people during holidays, at night, and those without a primary care doctor.

## [Reference] Status of medical consultation and examination and testing system

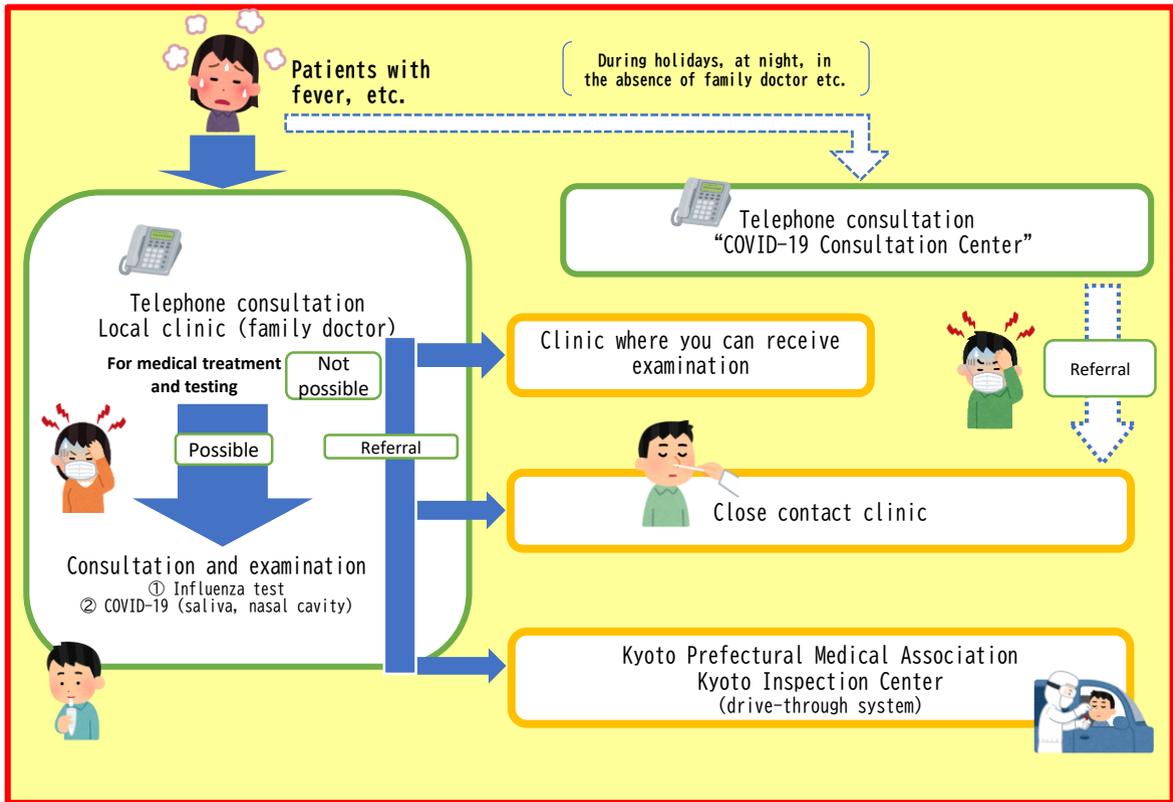
### ○For rapid testing of both COVID-19 and influenza (antigen test kit) Medical institutions (at present)

Clinics	164 locations
Close contact clinics	52 locations

### ○Medical institutions capable of PCR testing of COVID-19 (at present)

Clinics	477 locations
Close contact clinics	55 locations
Kyoto Inspection Center	3 places

# [Reference] Flow of medical consultations and examinations for people with symptoms such as a fever



## 2 Medical care provision system based on the review of hospitalization recommendations

Based on a review of hospitalization recommendations and measures under the Infectious Diseases Law, clarify the subjects of hospitalization, facilities, and home recuperation, and strengthen the system for receiving medical care in the immediate community

### Basic Policy for Strengthening the Medical System

- In principle, those who are at risk of serious illness, such as the elderly or those with underlying diseases, should be hospitalized.
- Those with no symptoms or mild symptoms who are judged not to require hospitalization are usually treated at a facility (home recuperation for appropriate persons).
- Establish a system to promptly respond to the deterioration of medical conditions at a facility or at home

### Triage criteria for inpatient, institutional, and home care

#### [ Admission to hospital)

- 65 years and older
- Patients with underlying diseases (e.g., possible deterioration of respiratory diseases, organ function or immune function, etc.)
- Pregnant woman
- Patients with severe or moderate symptoms of COVID-19
- A person who is deemed necessary by a physician after comprehensive consideration of symptoms, etc.
- A person whom the Governor, etc. finds necessary for preventing the spread of the disease

#### [Care facility/home care]

- The following persons shall be treated at a care facility:
  - Those who live with the elderly or those at risk of serious illness.
  - Person living with a person who is in contact with the elderly, such as medical, welfare, or nursing care personnel
  - A person who is deemed necessary by the physician based on a comprehensive consideration
- Those who are capable of appropriate infection control, who can live independently alone, or who can have their living space separated may receive medical treatment at home.

### [Reference]

### Status of Medical Care Delivery System

#### <Medical care delivery system>

○Hospital beds  
569 beds (at present)  
(86 beds for seriously ill)

750 beds  
(Target by the end of the year)

\*Response to future infection situations in a flexible manner

○Accommodation and recuperation facilities  
338 rooms (at present)



Maintain this number for now

### 3 Public health center system

The function of public health centers will be focused on active epidemiological surveys and cluster response, and a new follow-up system will be established for those recuperating at home.

#### ① Focus on health center functions

##### ○ Focused operations

###### <Active epidemiological investigation>

- Rapid action survey for infected persons and early identification of close contacts
- To prevent the spread of infection in areas where the number of infected patients is high, conduct PCR tests on residents and employees of facilities for the elderly, etc.

###### <Cluster response>

- Dispatch of expert teams to prevent the spread of infection to medical institutions and facilities for the elderly in the event of a cluster outbreak
- Advice and guidance on prevention of infection at medical institutions and facilities for the elderly.

##### ○ Operations to be consolidated at newly established centers, etc.

- COVID-19 Medical Consultation Center to be established in cooperation with the prefectural and municipal governments
- Establishment of a new follow-up team for those who are recuperating at home, and establishment of a system for efficiently and effectively caring for patients

#### ② Improving the operation of HER-SYS, etc.

- Promotion of information sharing at clinics and medical institutions using HER-SYS and G-MIS (\*) for early identification of infection status and centralized management

#### ③ Establishment of human resources bank

- Establishment of a human resources bank to register retired public health nurses as well as persons with public health nurse license
- Regular training sessions are held to maintain the expertise of public health nurses, etc.

\*HER-SYS (Information acquisition and management support system for COVID-19, etc.)  
The system in which information on patients infected with COVID-19 (name, symptoms, behavioral history, etc.) input by medical institutions, etc., is grasped centrally and information can be shared among related parties.

\*G-MIS (Information support system for medical institutions treating COVID-19 cases)

The system in which information on situations, such as the number of outpatients suspected of being infected with the virus and the number of tests, procured medical equipment, and medical supplies is input by medical institutions in order to understand the situation in an integrated manner, and the information can be shared among relevant parties

## II. Request to prefectural residents and a promotion of three priority measures

In order to prevent the spread of infectious diseases and promote socioeconomic activities at the same time, we will continue to ask every citizen of the prefecture to implement the new normal lifestyle, and will continue to implement three priority measures.

### 1 Putting the new normal lifestyle into practice in the WITH Corona era

- ① Three basics of infection prevention  
(ensuring physical distance, wearing a mask, and washing hands)
- ② Avoiding poorly ventilated enclosed spaces, crowded areas, and those that foster close-up conversations and vocalizations
- ③ If there are symptoms of a fever or a cold, take care of yourself at home.
- ④ When using a store, etc., visit those displaying a sticker for proof of following guidelines, and use a close contact confirmation application such as “Kokotoro”.
- ⑤ COVID-19 is a disease that does not discriminate and can infect anyone.

### 2 Safe use of restaurants

- ① **Requesting restaurants to comply with guidelines**
  - Strict display of stickers by the Kyoto Conference on the Promotion of the Guidelines
  - Raising awareness of compliance with the guidelines by taking advantage of opportunities such as on-site inspections at prefectural police headquarters and health centers
  - Raising awareness of compliance with the guidelines by taking advantage of the opportunities provided by the Prefectural Police Headquarters for management training at restaurants (entertainment facilities) (About 1,000 locations from October to March)
  - Thorough guidance on guidelines for restaurants with cluster outbreaks and restaurants with inadequate infection prevention measures, carried out by a response team
- ② **Request for measures to prevent infection during eating and drinking occasions**
  - Refrain from using stores that do not comply with the guidelines.
  - Do not hold banquets or drinking parties with loud conversations or singing in large groups.
- ③ **Promotion of use of contact confirmation applications**
  - Store registrations for contact confirmation apps such as “Kokotoro” and a further expansion of its user base
  - Implementation of PCR testing for users of the contact confirmation apps such as “Kokotoro” who may have come into contact with an infected person

### 3. For university and junior and senior high school students to live their student lives with peace of mind

#### ① Continuation and strengthening of infection prevention measures at universities

- Support for measures to prevent the spread of infections on campuses, such as the establishment of an online classroom environment and the elimination of shared rooms in student dormitories
- Raising awareness of infection prevention measures in university life through educational videos and e-mails

#### ② Requests for measures to prevent infection in university life

- In order to prevent infections in daily life, be sure to avoid the three Cs.
- Observe guidelines for preventing the spread of infection at universities, etc.
- In extracurricular activities, appoint a responsible person and observe the activity manual.

#### ③ Measures to prevent infection in junior and senior high schools

- Educating Junior and Senior High School Students on the “new normal lifestyle” through video messages created by experts
- Alert for infection prevention during group activities, such as during club activities

#### ④ Construction of a PCR testing network for university students

- Conduct PCR testing for university students practicing at medical institutions and facilities
- System of support for the implementation of PCR testing at university health centers

### 4. To prevent the spread of infection among people at risk of serious illness

#### ① Request for avoiding visiting elderly care facilities

- Visits to medical institutions, facilities for the elderly, etc., should basically be refrained from, and measures to prevent infection should be thoroughly taken in the case of a visit.

#### ② Implementation of training for employees of elderly facilities, etc.

- Under the supervision of a nurse specializing in infectious diseases, create training videos (total of 9 lessons) for assistance with meals, putting on and taking off protective clothing, etc., and implement training on infection prevention measures.
- Distribution of a checklist corresponding to the contents of the training video, carrying out of inspections

#### ③ Considerations and requests towards the elderly and those with underlying diseases

- Avoid going out to crowded places and areas where there are many infections.
- When meeting elderly persons, etc., strictly monitor their physical conditions and take measures to prevent infection.

#### ④ Implementation of PCR testing at facilities for the elderly

- Implementation of PCR testing for employees working at medical institutions or elderly care facilities located in areas where a large number of patients are infected, and for hospitalized patients

#### ⑤ Continuation of services through mutual support by care workers

- Conclude an agreement with the prefectural and municipal governments and the Council of Welfare Facilities for the Elderly, etc., for dispatch of support staff when an infection occurs at a nursing facility, etc., and continue nursing services, etc.