

Key Revisions to Basic Policies for Novel Coronavirus Disease Control by the Government of Japan

1 State of emergency

- The nationwide state of emergency has been extended until the 31st of May.
- The 13 “designated prefectures under specific cautions” will remain under specific cautions.

2 Evaluation of past measures and the current situation

- The united efforts of the people have achieved certain results as an explosive spread of infection has been avoided with a decrease in newly reported cases. On the other hand, the number of daily new cases reported nationwide remains around 200 and efforts to reduce new infection need to continue for the time being.

3 Measures to be taken

- Through continued collective efforts by the people, newly reported cases need to be reduced to the level where it is possible to prevent the spread of infection through more effective counter-cluster measures and to sufficiently treat patients including severe cases.

4 Pandemic prevention measures according to the situation

- In the designated prefectures under specific cautions, measures including staying home and restricting the use of facilities (self-restraint request of business operations) will continue, with a view to achieving the target of reducing people-to-people contact at least by 70 percent, or ideally 80 percent.
- In the designated prefectures other than those under specific cautions, the request of self-restraint from going out is applied to cases such as travel across prefectures; pubs and restaurants with hospitality services ; and places with 3-Cs (closed spaces, crowded places, and close-contact settings).

5 Provision of medical care / Surveillance and information gathering

Medical care

- Patients with mild symptoms will be treated basically at accommodation facilities, in order to secure medical provision system that focuses on preventing patients from developing severe conditions. In this regard, prefectures will work to secure facilities such as hotels with government support.
- In order to secure capacity for outpatients and testing, establishment of “regional outpatients and testing centers”, which conduct tests intensively, is promoted. Efficient testing system will be secured by examining patients at large tents, prefab complexes or drive-through facilities.

Surveillance

“Information grasp and management support system” for speedy information sharing among relevant people on patients etc., will be established as soon as possible, in order to reduce administrative burden of medical institutions and the public health centers. Moreover, the system will be used to efficiently collect and analyze statistic data.