

November 18, 2020

Request from the Governor to the People of Ehime Concerning the Novel Coronavirus  
(Main Points)

In the recent days we have seen an upsurge in the number of coronavirus cases. The weather has begun to drop and the air is beginning to dry. People are also expected to be meeting up more due to events like New Years and Christmas, leading to gatherings of people who normally do not meet with each other often. With end-of-year/New Year's parties likely taking place with people eating and drinking out in groups, the risk of spreading the coronavirus and the emergence of a cluster infection will rise.

As such, it is of utmost importance that every resident of Ehime raises their awareness towards the coming increased risk of infection, and take stronger precautions to protect themselves.

1. Everyone should pay attention to situations and locations that could increase their risk of infection, and properly take basic precautions such as socially distancing, disinfecting, wearing masks and refraining from yelling and speaking loudly.  
\*Please refer to “5 situations that have an increased risk of infection” and “How to reduce your risk of infection when eating out with others.”
2. Participation in “parties with large groups of people in close proximity speaking loudly,” “dining out at night or for long hours,” “seasonal drinking events,” etc. should be avoided.
3. There have been some cases found in Ehime as a result of individuals traveling out of Ehime and meeting in groups. Individuals who travel outside of Ehime should exercise caution during their travels and to pay careful attention to their health after they return to Ehime.

5 situations that have an increased risk of infection

1. Parties and other gatherings with drinking
2. Eating and drinking in large groups for extended periods of time
3. Speaking without wearing a mask
4. Living with other people in enclosed close quarters
5. While relaxing (taking a break in the smoking room at work, etc.)

### How to reduce your risk of infection when eating out with others

- When drinking out try to 1) do so in small groups and for short periods of time, 2) with people you are often together with, 3) while avoiding strong liquor and not drinking in excess.
- Do not share utensils or cups. Everyone should have their own utensils and cups.
- Do not have seats facing each other. (try not to have people directly in front of you or directly next to you.)
- Wear a mask when speaking.
- Make sure that your surroundings are properly ventilated and use stores that are mindful of following the guidelines for preventative measures.
- People who are not feeling well should not attend.