

June 30, 2020

Request from the Governor (Precautions when Leaving the Prefecture)

As of 6/19, Ehime has transitioned into a “Infection Reduction Period.” There have been no new cases of infection as of 5/27, marking over a month of no new cases. I would like to express my gratitude to all the people of Ehime who exercised precaution, the specialists from numerous fields, and the medical staff who helped to fight the virus at our medical facilities. It is thanks to everyone’s effort that we are where we are today.

As some of you may be aware from the news, there appears to be a rise in cases of the virus arising in metropolitan areas. Tokyo has been especially hard hit, suffering over 50 new cases of infection multiple days in a row.

Tokyo made an announcement that the increase in cases is in part due to more proactive testing. As individuals with light symptoms do not put stress on medical facilities, the city has still not called for measures of restraint.

However, Ehime has a much higher population of elderly compared to Tokyo. If the virus is brought into Ehime and spreads, we suffer the risk of many elderly individuals being infected and suffering from severe, possibly deadly, symptoms.

As such, while requests for restraint on travel outside of the prefecture have been lifted, **we strongly advise caution in traveling to metropolitan areas such as Tokyo.**

If you are considering traveling to one of the metropolitan areas, please closely assess the necessity of the trip. Should you choose to travel, please make sure to closely monitor your health for two weeks after returning to Ehime, make sure to stay at home if you are feeling unwell, always wear a mask outside and avoid crowded areas. Always keep in mind that you may be infected, and show “consideration towards not spreading infection.”

Finally, I would like to once again reiterate the “Infection Prevention Measures.”

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1. Protect yourself from contamination!

2. Take precaution to avoid spreading the virus to others!

3. Make avoiding the 3 Cs (closed spaces, crowded places, close-contact) a habit!

Always keeping in mind these three measures is key to preventing the spread of the virus while also balancing social and economic activities.

Going forward, Ehime promises to put in its best efforts to quickly provide accurate information so that residents can properly face, be scared of, and take action safely towards the novel coronavirus. Let us all work together toward realizing an “Ehime filled with smiles.”