

Japan's Response to the Novel Coronavirus Disease (Whole aspect):

10/30/2020

Office for Novel Coronavirus Disease Control, Cabinet Secretariat
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare**Lessons obtained from 2 degrees infection spread period****○April to May**

→Congest of various inspection systems including the excessive duties of the public health center and stringency of the medical offer system.

→Full-scale suspension of business by the Declaration of a State of Emergency.

○July to August

→Expansion of the ability such as PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) tests (Enforcement such as concentration-like PCR tests in the high-risk local area including the entertainment district).

→Requests of shortening the business hours in a limited area, limited type of industry.

→Without the declaration of a State Emergency the infection has been apt to decrease.

(Effects)

○Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku:

The head of Shinjuku ward taking the lead to hold a study session with store managers →Full and Concentrated implementation of PCR tests → Infected people decreased

○Nishiki and Sakae area of Nagoya city, Minami area of Osaka city:

Concentrated implementation of PCR tests and Requests of shortening the business hours → Comings and Goings decreased → Infected people decreased

Needed Measures**(Whole aspect of measures)**

Early Detection

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Strategic (Area Concentrated) PCR tests

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Ensuring the system for the measures

(High increases of the works of the public health center →Quick response for supporting the PHC)

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(In a case of a certain spread of infections) Appropriate and effective measures including the requests for the people under the special measures law

(Prior preventive measures against infection spread)

○Asking the people to thoroughly avoid an infection risk/ Containing infection by performing "early stage detection" "early stage intervention" in a high risk area and in a case of cluster generation →Prevention of infection spread and aggravation.

○(Having taken consideration for the seasonal flu epidemic)Preparing the inspection system and the medical care offer system/ Carrying out broad-based and continuing adjustment for ensuring the public health center function.

(Measures against the case of infection spread)

○ Implementation of request for shortening business hours based on the special measures law in appropriate manner as well as fully ensuring the public health center function and the medical offer system.

(Evolution of measures)

Evolving the measures depending on the local fact sequentially, based on the scientific knowledge of the specialist including the analysis in infection situation.

Japan's Response to the Novel Coronavirus Disease (Specific measures):

Prior preventive measures against infection spread

○Dissemination to the people about "five scenes(1 Social gathering with alcohol,2 Eating and drinking with large number of people or for the long time, 3 Conversation without wearing a mask, 4 Cohabitation in the small space, 5 Change of the place to stay)" where an infection risk obtained from the cluster analysis increases.

Such as:

→Prevention of infection by showing the people the scene where a concrete infection risk increases of the everyday life.

→Presentation of the effective new technology on the basis of risk analysis of the large scale events.

○Positively implement the concentrated PCR tests in the place having high aggravation risk and occurrence of a cluster.

-Publicizing the active inspection of the person with symptoms such as the fever in medical care personnel, caretakers (Oct 16).

-Publicizing the Working Group report about the entertainment district to the local governments (Oct 29).

→A large-scale PCR tests was intensively implemented to contain infection in the area and the neighboring areas that a cluster produced.

(The case of implementing PCR tests in installed test sites: After implementing PCR tests, the infection has decreased.)

•Matsuyama area of Naha city: 2078 tests were implemented in the temporary test site, located in the neighboring wharf (August 1-2).

•Minami area of Osaka city: 2078 tests were implemented in the temporary test site (July16-Aug31).

•Shimo-toori area of Kumamoto city: 648 tests were implemented in the temporary test site, located in downtown Kumamoto(Sep 10-as of Oct 23).

→105 cases of the expert dispatch has been implemented by the government as of Oct 26(including 15 on going cases).

○Preparation of inspection and medical offer system that keeps the seasonal flu epidemic in mind

→For the preparation of a wave of the next infection spread, whole prefectural governments devise a securing plan of bed, staying medical treatment facilities and, along this plan, secure a bed, medical treatment facilities.

(The number of secured beds:26,729 (including 3,439 for seriously ill persons), The number of secured sickrooms: 22,941 as of Oct 21)

→For the preparation of a seasonal flu epidemic, the system of inspecting, examining symptomatic persons has maintained. Also the distribution of a personal protector to appointed medical institutions has made.

→Maintenance plan of the inspection system stood on at a peak time of the past infection spread will be made in whole prefectural governments in October.

○Securing of public health center function by the broad-based support

→The government has coordinated to dispatch the experts at the time of infection spread when it is difficult for the prefectural governments to secure human resources.

(The cases of dispatches)

•For the support of the active epidemiology investigation increased in Shinjuku-ku, 53 experts were dispatched for Shinjuku public health center from June 23 to August 23.

•For the prevention of the city infection spread in Okinawa prefecture, 26 experts were dispatched for the Okinawa prefectural government office and the public health centers

Measures to be taken in the event of infection spread

○Taking precautionary measures such as focused enforcement of the Special Measures Law (Requesting limited working hours and/or stay home)

→Effective implementation by focusing on areas and business categories rather than requesting comprehensive business closure.

→Timely implementation of the above mentioned measures in an appropriate scale by coordinating with consultation bodies between the central government and local major cities with entertainment districts.

○Ensuring the functioning of health centers by wider regional support

→Establishing a staff bank for public health nurses at the national level by the end of the year.

○Ensuring the testing and medical system

→Operating the beds and recuperation accommodations secured under the plan in response to the situation.

→Supporting beyond prefectural borders by measures such as dispatching medical staff for the wider region and/or dispatching Self Defense Forces under disaster response scheme.

The medical system in preparation for the infection spread

Securing beds, and recuperation accommodations

- Finalizing plans in all prefectures for securing beds, and recuperation accommodations. Securing beds in response to the situation of each prefecture in line with the finalized plan.

Supporting the consolidation of medical institution systems

- Cabinet decision to use 1.2 trillion yen from the reserve fund in addition to the disbursement of 1.8 trillion yen from the first and second supplementary budgets.
- Raising bed securing fee and securing beds and recuperation accommodations for October onwards by raising emergency comprehensive subsidy.
- Raising medical remuneration for those who need respiratory failure management from the equivalent of three times the additional medical emergency management remuneration to five times.

Building up testing and treatment system during seasonal influenza epidemic

- In anticipation of sharp increase of testing and medical demand following increasing number of patients with fever with the arrival of seasonal influenza epidemic from autumn to winter, drawing up a plan in each prefecture approximately by the end of October to revise the current system for swiftly introducing a system for needed testing and treatment by directly contacting the nearest medical institution by phone and consulting designated medical institutions for testing and treatment,