

COVID-19

Omicron Variant is Spreading. Stay alert during the New Year holidays (excerpt)

December 24, 2021

- Currently, infection with the new mutant variant "Omicron" is spreading all over the world. It is estimated that the infectivity is about three times that of the Delta variant, and the number of infected people is increasing rapidly in Africa and Western countries.
- The coming months will be a time of increased infection risks, such as cold weather, more time spent indoors, and more opportunities to eat and drink at Christmas, year-end parties, and New Year's parties.
- Even with Omicron, basic infection control measures such as wearing masks and hand hygiene are still important.
- In order to protect yourself and your loved ones, let's keep up basic infection control measures, be thoroughly prepared for the risk of infection during the year-end and New Year holidays, and welcome the new year.

(Chart) Cumulative cases per variant in England (as of December 20)

In England, it took 64 days for the Delta variant, which raged in the fifth wave, to reach a cumulative total of 5,000. Omicron reached that number in 27 days. (About 2.4 times faster)

