

# COVID-19 7<sup>th</sup> wave: Responding to the continued rapid spread of infection

## \*Announcement of the strengthening of preventative measures against the BA.5 subvariant in Gifu Prefecture\*

(Excerpt)

Implementation period: 5<sup>th</sup> of August – 30<sup>th</sup> September  
**Further extension**

In Gifu prefecture, the week from Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> of August to Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> of August, the rate of new COVID-19 infections decreased for the first time in two months. However, the number of cases per 100,000 inhabitants is still at a high level of almost 1000 people, and infection continues to spread throughout the prefecture amongst all age groups. In addition, following the end of summer break from the end of August, schools will gradually reopen, which raises concerns over the further spread of infection,

The rate of hospital admittance still remains above 50%. In addition, the significant impact on general medical care as well as COVID-19-related care is continuing.

In view of this situation, the implementation period of the currently enforced preventative measures will be extended to the end of September, and we request that these measures are strengthened and fully abided by.

We ask that all prefectural residents fully abide by the basic preventative measures, as well as promptly putting the following measures into practice.

We ask all prefectural residents to cooperate with the following measures

- Prior to meeting the elderly or those with underlying health conditions, take a (free) COVID-19 test.
- Avoid crowded places and places with a high risk of infection.
- Limit the use of emergency care and ambulance services to when absolutely necessary.
- When suffering from symptoms, for example a sore throat or a fever, even if they are only mild, take action such as taking time off work or school.