

To Residents of Nagano Prefecture  
Governor's Message on New Influenza  
(In response to Guidelines issued by Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare)

19<sup>th</sup> June, 2009

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The "Guideline for Securement of Medical Services, Quarantine and Requests for Temporary Closure of Schools, Day-care Facilities (Revised)" was issued by Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare on June 19.

This guideline states that "keeping the number of outbreaks remain zero by the current countermeasures to confine the new flu virus has already become difficult, considering the current infection situation."

Granted this guideline, Nagano Prefecture is therefore responding as follows:

(Principal measures)

● Patients:

- In principle, patients are recommended to refrain from going out and to stay home for recuperation.
- Patients whose basic illness may cause serious conditions should be hospitalized for medical care if necessary.

● Individuals who have had close contact with patients:

- We will explain preventive measures for further infection by refraining from going out, and ask for their understanding on the issue.
- We request the person to report their condition to a Health and Welfare Office, if any of the symptoms such as onset of fever should occur.
- In case an individual has underlying illness and the infection is strongly suspected, prophylactic administration of anti-influenza-virus drugs will be conducted.

● Schools and child-care facilities, etc.:

- If an infected case should happen at schools, child-care facilities, and so forth, we will request the institution to have a temporary closure according to circumstances.
- We may request for a temporary closure of institutions in wider area including schools and day-care centers which do not have any infected cases yet, if we consider it necessary for the sake of preventing further infection.

● Proactive surveillance of infected cases:

- We do not conduct surveillance on all of the patients, but focus on patients who belong to a school or a mass group, which has epidemic potentiality at a large scale if left neglected.
- We will also survey patients who became infected one after another in a same group.

In addition to those measures mentioned above, we will be conducting other counter-measures against the new influenza according the current situation while keeping close cooperation with other organizations involved.

We would like to ask all the citizens of Nagano Prefecture to adhere to the latest information, and ask for your continued cooperation in prevention of further spread of infection by conducting preventive actions for infection.

Thank you again for your kind understanding and cooperation.

- Wash your hands and gargle often.
- Avoid visiting crowded areas.
- Wear a mask in crowds.
- Practice proper “etiquette” when coughing or sneezing.