

Kumamoto University's Correspondence to the Outbreak of the COVID-19
(Protocol Version 41)

In order to control/prevent the virus transmission, all faculty members, professors, and students of Kumamoto University (hereafter KU) are encouraged to take precautionary measures including the following but not limited to;

- Always wear a mask regardless of your showing any symptoms or not
- Wash your hands properly and frequently, apply and rub alcohol hand-sanitizer on to your hands and between fingers, and ventilate the room well and frequently
- In case of having a fever, contact your family doctor once you find out, then stay behind at home

Please note that all precautions should be taken as if to prevent other infectious diseases such as common cold and influenza.

Also, since there is the significant number of transmission cases by people, who have no symptoms shown, has been reported, these asymptomatic/pre-symptomatic coronavirus carriers are most likely contributing to the rapid spread of the coronavirus. Therefore, changing the way of your thinking must be done, and you should think that you are one of these asymptomatic/pre-symptomatic coronavirus carriers and consider what each one of you should or should not do in your daily life to prevent from transmitting the virus you might carry to the others around you. This should be considered as **“the new normal.”**

To All Kumamoto University Students

As to students' countermeasures during this pandemic situation, they should follow and execute what is mentioned in any announcements/notifications published by the Director/Vice-President (in the Educational and Student Support Division) and each Faculty/Department.

https://www.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/whatsnew/koho/2020/info_corona (available in Japanese only)

[Health Self-Maintenance]

- a. Take your body temperature and self-check your condition every morning (utilize the self-observation sheet and make a list of all the places you have visited and all the people you have made contact with in case you are to be requested to report to the Public Health Centre.)
- b. In case of having any symptoms including a fever, avoid visiting a general hospital, instead, phone a local clinic or your family doctor first (they will give you a referral to another local medical institution if they cannot take you as their patient.)

If you are not sure where to call, please contact "dial for exclusive use of patients with fever" at 0570-096-567 to find out which medical institution can take you in.

[Coronavirus Support Center or the Help Line]

In case of any symptoms such as a fever:

- 1) Consult with your family doctor or local medical clinic first
- 2) Call "dial for exclusive use of patients with fever" line only if you do not know who to consult with

TEL 0570-096-567 (Weekdays only from 9 AM to 5 PM)

Residents outside of Kumamoto City: Consultation Counter (Call center) for Exclusive Use of Kumamoto New Model Coronavirus Infectious Disease

TEL 096-300-5909 (available 24 hours)

Foreign Residents: 092-687-7962

If you are unsure whether to visit a hospital emergency room or to call an ambulance at night time:

Nighttime Medical Care Consulting Service (for personnel over 15 years old)

TEL #7400 (Every day from 7 PM to 8 AM)

- c. Also, please contact your department and professor to inform of your test result if it came out positive.
- d. When to resume school after your isolation period should be in accordance with your physician's opinion. No doctor's note needs to be submitted when you start your isolation period and resume school.

[Infection Prevention]

- a. Take thorough infection prevention measures.
- b. For your information, please watch the instructional video to learn "How to Prevent Infection" (Japanese contents.) <https://md.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/course/view.php?id=94282>

[Domestic Travels/Outings among Prefectures]

- a. While traveling cross-border prefectures, thoroughly implement basic infection control measures such as avoiding the Three Cs.
<https://www.pref.kumamoto.jp/soshiki/30/130004.html> (contents available in Japanese only)

[Going Abroad]

- a. As advised on *Overseas Safety Information* published by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, do not take any personal trips to any of the LEVEL 3 areas/regions/countries below listed.
- b. Avoid taking non-emergency and/or unnecessary trips to any of the LEVEL 2 areas/regions/countries.
- c. If you must plan an unavoidable trip abroad with a specific reason, ensure to notify to staff of General Affairs Section at your department if you are a faculty personnel or to staff of Educational Affairs at

your faculty/school if you are a student in order to take a necessary procedure prior to your departure. When travelling, please ensure to check and pay attention to the most up-to-date information by accessing Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan's website*** and Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare Quarantine Station's website****.

*** <https://www.anzen.mofa.go.jp/> (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)

**** <https://www.forth.go.jp/index.html> (Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare Quarantine Station)

[Returning from Your Trip from Other Countries]

- a. Prior to entering Japan, any returnees and visitors from other countries are requested to check the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website for the most up-to-date information regarding Japanese border measures and follow any instructions given by the Quarantine Station https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html
https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000121431_00209.html
- b. **Up to seven days after your entry to Japan**, ensure to utilize the self-observation sheet in order to maintain and observe your health condition.

[Attending Events]

- a. In case of planning and organizing any events, it should be carefully planned and managed in accordance with "Restrictions on Holding Events" published by Kumamoto Prefecture, and attendees' health and safety concerns should be taken care of as the first priority.
<https://www.pref.kumamoto.jp/soshiki/30/96627.html> (available in Japanese only)
- b. As the cases so far have shown, any events, which are held at any venues where it is poorly ventilated, densely crowded, also a high risk of having unpredictable contacts with an unspecified majority is present, have tendencies of higher risks of creating potential clusters, you should make your judgement on attending such events corresponding to the Kumamoto Prefectural Notification mentioned above.
- c. Please continue to pay attention and take enough precautions when having lunch/dinner/drinks with acquaintances by limiting the number of people in a group as much as possible, having with the people you usually stay/work with, and taking thorough infection prevention measures. When holding an off-campus event over lunch/dinner/drinks with careful prevention measures, please respect the "Four Steps to Lower Risks of Spreading Infection at Lunch/Dinner Meetings" published by Kumamoto Prefecture. Please refrain from having meals/coffees with acquaintances on campus for the time being.

*<https://www.pref.kumamoto.jp/soshiki/30/93983.html> (available in Japanese only)

[Obtaining the Most Up-To-Date Information]

The most current information is available and should be obtained from each of the following website;

- Ministry of Education: *[COVID-19] Information about MEXT's measures*
https://www.mext.go.jp/en/mext_00006.html

- Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare: *About Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)*
https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/newpage_00032.htm
- Office for Novel Coronavirus Disease Control, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of Japan, (Cabinet Secretariat):
<https://corona.go.jp/> (contents available in Japanese only)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs:
<https://www.anzen.mofa.go.jp/> (contents available in Japanese only)
- Ministry of Justice: *Information Related to New Coronavirus Infection (COVID-19) from Immigration Services Agency*
<https://www.moj.go.jp/hisho/kouhou/0000000451.html>
- Kumamoto Prefecture: *Information Related to New Coronavirus Infection (COVID-19)*
<https://www.pref.kumamoto.jp/site/covid-19/> (contents available in Japanese only)

To All Faculty/Department Staff Members

[Health Self-Maintenance]

- a. Take your body temperature and self-check your condition every morning (utilize the self-observation sheet and make a list of all the places you have visited and all the people you have made contact with in case you are to be requested to report to the Public Health Centre.)
- b. In case of having any symptoms including a fever, avoid visiting a general hospital, instead, phone a local clinic or your family doctor first (they will give you a referral to another local medical institution if they cannot take you as their patient.)

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- c. Also, please contact your department and professor to inform when a positive test result.
- d. When to resume school after your isolation period should be in accordance with your physician's opinion. No doctor's note needs to be submitted when you start your isolation period and resume school.

[Infection Prevention]

- a. Take thorough infection prevention measures.
- b. Minimize having any face-to-face meetings by limiting the length of them, regular ventilating the meeting room, using separate rooms, or even utilizing online meeting system.
- c. If your work involves face-to-face contacts with others, take prevention measures by leaving enough spaces among people.

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[Going Abroad]

- a. As advised on *Overseas Safety Information* published by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, do not travel to any of the **LEVEL 3** areas/regions/countries below listed (including both personal and business trips.)
- b. Avoid taking non-emergency and/or unnecessary trips to any of the **LEVEL 2** areas/regions/countries.
- c. If you must plan an unavoidable trip abroad with a specific reason, ensure to notify to staff of General Affairs Section at your faculty/department in order to take a necessary procedure prior to your departure***. When travelling, please ensure to check and pay attention to the most up-to-date information by accessing Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan's website**** and Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare Quarantine Station's website*****.

*** please refer to the announcement issued by the Director / Vice President (Research / Global Strategy Section)

**** <https://www.anzen.mofa.go.jp/> (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan)

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[Returning from Your Trip from Other Countries]

- a. Prior to entering Japan, any returnees and visitors from other countries are requested to check the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website for the most up-to-date information regarding Japanese border measures and follow any instructions given by the Quarantine Station (which includes providing a certificate of negative PCR test taken within 72 hours of departure time from originated county and the self-quarantine period determined by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and other related

Ministry.)

https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000121431_00209.html

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- Office for Novel Coronavirus Disease Control, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of Japan, (Cabinet Secretariat):
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- Ministry of Justice: *Information Related to New Coronavirus Infection (COVID-19) from Immigration Services Agency*
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- Kumamoto Prefecture: *Information Related to New Coronavirus Infection (COVID-19)*
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General Affairs Division
Ext. 3117 & 3118