

Regarding the Outbreak of Pandemic Influenza (Swine Flu) in Kobe

On May 15th, we confirmed the domestic infection of pandemic influenza in the city area, the first case found in Japan. Yesterday, another 7 citizens were confirmed as pandemic influenza patients.

Responding to the outbreak of pandemic influenza in the city, we have decided to take the countermeasures as follows.

- Kindergartens, elementary, junior high and high schools, and schools for challenged in Higashi-Nada, Nada, Chuo, Hyogo, Kita and Nagata Wards are closed until May 22nd.
- We ask private schools, universities, prefectural schools in Kobe and schools in Ashiya City to close until May 22nd.
- All the school trips and outside activities planned before May 22nd are postponed.
- We also ask day-care facilities such as nursery centers, centers for senior citizens and challenged to close until May 22nd.
- The Kobe Festival slated for May 17th will be cancelled as multiple pandemic influenza infection cases are suspected.
- Public facilities run by the City and city-affiliated organizations are open announcing their users to be cautious about hygienic control. We ask private facilities to be cautious too.
- We open new consultation counter for general public.
- More telephone lines at Kobe Fever Heat Counseling Center are added on and be available around-the-clock.
- Kobe City Hall and all the municipal facilities are operated as per normal.

We ask the citizens and corporations voluntarily restrain from unnecessary outgo and wear masks and wash their hands.

In the case you have a suspicious symptom of influenza infection such as fever or a cough, please do not go to a hospital but call the Kobe Fever Heat Counseling Center first (080-6115-9901).