

To all residents and business owners of Kyoto Prefecture

Medical facilities across Kyoto Prefecture are also struggling to cope with the recent surge in COVID-19 infections. It's possible that we will soon enter a state of medical care system collapse which will result in not only affecting COVID-19 patients, but also the medical care system dealing with regular patients could become dangerously stretched.

The recent surge is caused in part by new variants of the virus that are circulating which are highly contagious, and it is understood that it can develop into a serious illness even for younger individuals.

Each individual's carelessness could raise the infection risk which could even spread to your family and friends.

Everyone who lives in Kyoto Prefecture, and everyone who owns a business, I would like to ask you all from bottom of my heart to remain alert in order to save lives.

1. Is today's outing really necessary?

What if you are infected... you could become the source for spreading the virus.

Please stay at home unless it is necessary to maintain your living.

2. Is today's commuting to work absolutely necessary?

Reducing human contact will stop the spread of the infection.

Decreasing the number of people commuting will actually contribute to save businesses in Kyoto Prefecture.

I appreciate your full cooperation at the present, both from business owners and from the people who are working at their companies.

3. Are you sure you're not contracting the virus when outdoors?

Regardless of the time, eating and drinking at a park or barbecuing by the riverside may not create a closed space but such activities do accumulate a lack of social distancing, and loud conversations can result in spreading droplet infections, therefore, such activities remain a possibly high source of infection.

Please also refrain from eating and drinking outdoors.

April 28th, 2021

NISHIWAKI Takatoshi
Governor of Kyoto Prefecture