# Okayama Prefecture COVID-19 Omicron Variant Special Precautionary Period

**1** Implementation Period: Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup> – Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup>

2 Area of Implementation: All Areas of Okayama Prefecture

## Measures for Prefectural Residents

- Refraining from showing up to work or attending school, and getting examined by a doctor in the case that you have even the slightest symptoms, even if such symptoms do not include a fever.
- Abiding by the 4 "Okayama Rules" and "Mask Code"
- Thoroughly taking part in the "New Lifestyle"
- Avoiding crowded areas as well as visiting places during rush hour when going out
- Only visiting restaurant establishments verified by the Okayama Prefecture Restaurant Disease Control Measures Third Party Certification System and restaurants that thoroughly follow prevention measures.
- Avoiding high-risk behavior such as drinking in groups at parks, having outdoor barbecues in large groups and going to karaoke
- O Vaccinations have proved to prevent infections, pathogeny and severe illness. Please consider getting vaccinated if you have not already done so.
- For those who live in Okayama Prefecture and have no symptoms but feel that they
  have been infected or have been in a high-risk environment, we ask that you take the
  free examinations (PCR test and antigen testing) offered by the prefecture

(In accordance to Special Measures Law Article 24, Section 9)

## Requests for Business Owners and Business Operators

- Abiding by the guidelines set forth for your business class. (In accordance to Special Measures Law Article 24, Section 9)
- O Thoroughly managing and monitoring employees' daily heath status and utilizing rapid antigen testing kits when necessary
  - Preventing employees from working if they have a fever, cold or any other symptoms
- Thoroughly implementing disease prevention measures at the workplace (washing and disinfecting of hands, cough etiquette, securing sufficient distance between employees, enforcing ventilation at the workplace, disinfecting communal areas that are touched by multiple people, carrying out video conferences, staggering times for midday breaks, thoroughly implementing disease prevention measures at employee housing)
- Abiding by and notifying others of the 4 "Okayama Rules" and "Mask Code"
- O Working toward implementing measures to decrease close contact, such as telework, staggered work shifts, commuting by bike etc..
  - Considering granting employees with preexisting illnesses or conditions that put them at risk for severe symptoms, employees that are pregnant, or employees that live with such people the option to do telework in order to prevent the spread of disease.
- O Implementing vacation time for getting vaccinated and making efforts to create an environment in which employees can comfortably get vaccinated
- Owners of restaurant establishments work toward acquiring Okayama Prefecture Restaurant Disease Control Measures Third Party Certification System\* verification.

A system which verifies the restaurant establishments, cafes and tea houses that are assimilating to the COVID-19 disease prevention standards set forth. The applications for verification are accepted from August 2, 2021.

Call Center: 086-222-5611 (Weekdays 9:00~17:00)

<sup>\*:</sup> Okayama Prefecture Restaurant Disease Control Measures Third Party Certification System



# Okayama Prefecture Omicron Variant Special Precautionary Period The 4 "Okayama Rules"



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- ★ When eating in groups, limit the amount of participants to 4 or less people that you see on a regular basis, and finish such meetings within two hours.
- ★ Continue to avoid the 3 C's, thoroughly wash your hands and ventilate.
- ★Refrain from taking unessential trips to other prefectures. In the case that you must travel to another prefecture, be sure to manage your health for 2 weeks before and after your trip.
- ★The use of just 1 mask will protect you as well as your loved ones.

#### Protect Each Other! Move Closer to 0 Infection Risk!

#### Rules in Consideration for Others: "Mask Code"

~Protect each other, protect your precious families, protect the workers of the prefecture.

Spread that kindness to the workers in the medical field as well ~



#### **○When chatting: "masked chatting"**

People have a tendency to let their guard down while on break, so be sure to pay extra attention during such times.

Case Infections occurring from chats had while in the dressing room or at the smoking area

#### OBeing sure to wear a mask when conversing during meals

Be sure to wear a mask when conversing Be sure to remain quiet during meals

Case A child visits home from outside of the prefecture and attends a family gathering, resulting in all members being infected

#### **○**The Correct Way to Wear a Mask

Find a mask that firmly fits the shape of your face with out leaving any open spaces. It has been shown that masks made from non-woven materials, such as cloth or urethane, are more effective for disease prevention.