

# Future Priorities in Fighting against COVID-19

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Material created by Nara Prefecture COVID-19 Response  
Headquarters (Excerpt)

## I Basic Policies to Date

Nara Prefecture has been tackling the Novel Coronavirus, an unknown enemy, with **three basic policies**.

# I Basic Policies to Date

## Three Basic Policies

- Policy 1 Identify infected people early, immediately isolate them, and provide **all of them** with treatment in hospitals or recovery in accommodation facilities.
- Policy 2 **Prevent serious conditions** to reduce **deaths** and aftereffects.
- Policy 3 **Identify patterns** of infection routes and give **clear directions** according to the pattern.

## II Future Priorities

With a strong will to overcome the disease, we **will prioritize** the following points while **firmly maintaining the three basic policies**.

1. Secure hospital beds and accommodation facilities for recovery
2. Control cluster infections in welfare facilities
3. Facilitate the smooth vaccination process

## II Future Priorities

### 1. Secure hospital beds and accommodation facilities for recovery

- When infection is identified, **promptly find a hospital or facility** for the patient (In principle, **within one day**).
- To ensure the above, strive to **secure and allocate necessary hospital beds and facilities**.
  - Encourage hospitals including private hospitals to make more beds available.
  - Recruit additional facilities for this purpose.
- Through these efforts, we will **keep the number of "recovering at home" to zero**.

## II Future Priorities

### 2. Control cluster infections in welfare facilities

So far, **30 cases** of cluster infections have appeared and **431 people** (including the first people infected in groups) were infected which is about **15%** of the total number of infected people in Nara.

Cluster infections in **welfare facilities** have been confirmed one after another since late December.

## II Future Priorities

### 2. Control cluster infections in welfare facilities

① In order not to bring the virus into facilities

- Closely **monitor staff's conditions**.
- Supply enough **protective equipment** such as masks, gowns and alcohol.
- Give **infection experts'** training and on-site guidance to improve the staff's capability to control infection.

## II Future Priorities

### 2. Control cluster infections in welfare facilities

② In order not to spread infection within facilities

Reduce infection risks on occasions without masks

- Dine either in **separate rooms** or **without facing each other**
- **Avoid Karaoke**
- **Take a bath one by one**
- Wear a mask and a face shield when assisting others

## II Future Priorities

### 3. Facilitate the smooth vaccination process

- In late February, the national government will **start vaccinating** healthcare workers first, then the elderly, people with underlying conditions, and finally other people.
- **Municipalities will conduct** vaccination for their residents.
- The prefecture will **set up a support system** for a smooth vaccination process.