## Approaching the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> wave of COVID-19 (Excerpt)

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 Coming into effect from 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 Gifu Prefectural Taskforce for Preventing the Spread of COVID-19

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December last year, Gifu Prefecture issued the "Announcement of the Strengthening of COVID-19 Measures to Prevent a Strain on Gifu's Medical Services" and was designated as an area in which such strengthened measures to tackle the spread of COVID-19 were necessitated by rising cases to prevent medical services becoming overwhelmed.

As a result, the strain on medical services in Gifu has started to show signs of gradually easing.

Therefore, the previously announced extension of the "Announcement of the Strengthening of COVID-19 Measures to Prevent a Strain on Gifu's Medical Services" which was set to end on the 12<sup>th</sup>, will now end earlier on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February following careful reconsideration. We would like to thank everyone for their cooperation with infection prevention measures thus far.

However, the strain on Gifu's medical services has not yet been fully resolved, as there are still medical institutions where the admission and discharge of patients is restricted due to infections among staff members, and other factors.

We hereby request that all prefectural residents continue to fully abide by the following measures as a united effort in order to protect yourself, your family, and others who are near and dear to you.

## We ask all prefectural residents to cooperate with the following measures

- Get vaccinated promptly.
- Fully abide by basic infection prevention measures.
- · Only use emergency medical services when absolutely necessary.
- Remain cautious about actions that could lead to an increased spread of infection, such as going to crowded places and places with a high risk of infection.
- Avoid speaking loudly and prolonging the time spent in restaurants, wear a mask during conversations, and be cautious about dining out in large groups.