

○ Message from the Mayor of Yakushima concerning the rapid increase in COVID-19 cases (August 2, 2022)

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## Rapid increase in COVID-19 cases

COVID-19 transmission has been increasing throughout Japan. Considering the current situation of COVID-19 infections, Kagoshima Prefecture issued a "High Increase in COVID-19 Infection Warning", asking people to strictly follow the countermeasures for COVID-19.

On Yakushima, the number of infected people has also continued to increase (over 20 per day), as well. With Yakushima's elderly population, it is not hard to imagine that COVID-19 infections will possibly be life-threatening to them. If this situation continues, our regional medical care facilities would be overwhelmed making medical care difficult.

I strongly appeal to the people of Yakushima to comply with all countermeasures against COVID-19. If you don't feel well, please avoid going out. If you have a fever or symptoms of COVID-19, call your family doctor.

I would like for all potential visitors to follow all the countermeasures against COVID-19 during your stay on Yakushima in order not to contract COVID-19 and/or infect other people.

Please always be mindful of your actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infections. Your life and your loved ones may be at risk of being infected by COVID-19. Please continue with all countermeasures against COVID-19.

August 2, 2022

Koji Araki  
Mayor of Yakushima Town