

# From May 8, 2023, COVID-19 will be downgraded to Category V Infectious Disease\*



## \*What is a Category V Infectious Disease?

The Japanese law, "Act on the Prevention of Infectious Diseases and Medical Care for Patients with Infectious Diseases" (also known as the Infectious Diseases Control Law) categorizes infectious diseases into the following types: Category I Infectious Disease, Category II Infectious Disease, Category III Infectious Disease, Category IV Infectious Disease, Category V Infectious Disease, Pandemic Influenza (Novel Influenza or Re-emerging Influenza), Designated Infectious Disease, and New Infectious Disease. The applicable regulations (what the law can do) differ depending on the classification of the disease.



Until May 7, 2023, COVID-19 was classified as "Pandemic Infectious Disease (Novel Influenza, Re-emerging Influenza, etc.), but from May 8, 2023, the classification will change to Category V Infectious Disease. As a result, the rules and regulations (laws) that can be implemented will also change. For more details, see the "Summary of Main Measures Based on the Infectious Diseases Control Law."

<https://bit.ly/3LBYT05>

## Basic Infection Control Measures After the Change

### Decisions will be left to the individual or business

Please refer to the following when making decisions:



- Measures, such as washing / disinfecting hands, and ventilation, continue to be effective as basic infection control measures.



- For those who are at high risk of developing severe symptoms, such as the elderly, it is effective to avoid places with poor ventilation and crowds during periods of congestion.

\*Rules about wearing a mask will also be left up to the individual or business.

### <If you have symptoms>

If you have symptoms such as a fever, please consult your family doctor / GP, a nearby medical institution, or a health consultation center. For details, refer to the pamphlet created by the Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center.

Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center  
<https://www.hiecc.or.jp/soudan/emg/index.html?lang=en>  
Languages: Japanese, English, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, and Tagalog



For more information on COVID-19, see the websites below.

● MHLW Official Website

[https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000164708\\_00001.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/0000164708_00001.html)



● Hokkaido Government HP

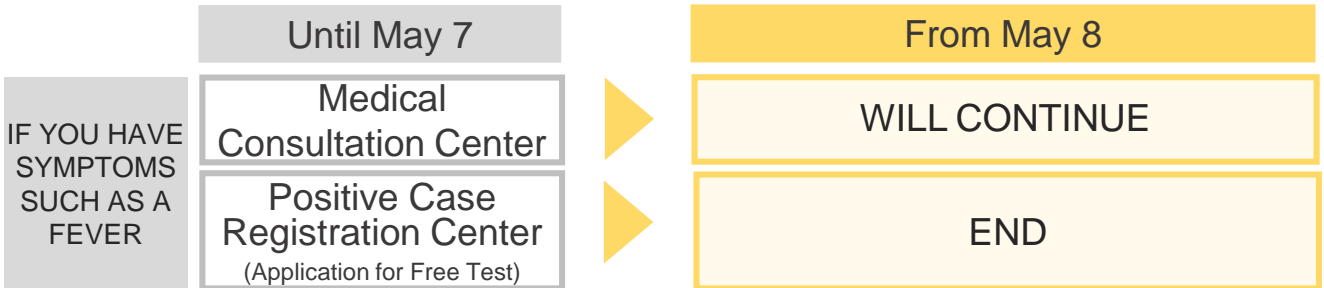
<https://www.pref.hokkaido.lg.jp/covid-19/index.html>



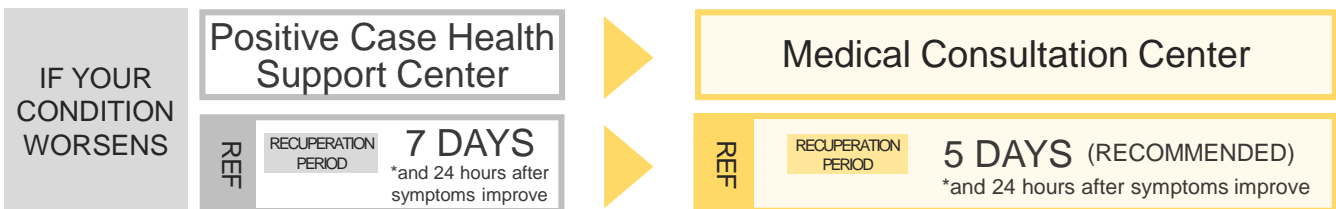
# CHANGES RELATED TO TRANSITION TO CATEGORY V

## If you have symptoms, or test positive

Consult your family doctor / GP, a nearby medical institution, or a Medical Consultation Center.



The consultation center if your condition worsens while recuperating will change.



Test fees and medical expenses will be borne by the individual.



## Basic Prevention Measures

Decisions will be left to the individual or business.

- Hand hygiene (hand washing)
- Adequate ventilation
- Avoid the 3 C's
- Social distancing

- Measures, such as washing / disinfecting hands, and ventilation, continue to be effective as basic infection control measures
- For those who are at high risk of developing severe symptoms, such as the elderly, it is effective to avoid places with poor ventilation and crowds during periods of congestion.

**BUSINESS**

- Take temperature upon entry
- Install antiseptic solution at entrance
- Install partitions such as acrylic panes

- Decisions should be made by business operators based on effectiveness of measures, etc.

The following programs will end as of May 7, 2023.

- Home-Care Set
- Pulse Oximeter
- Accommodation Facility
- Free Testing