



Cabinet Agency
for Infectious Disease Crisis Management

Outline of the National Action Plan for Novel Influenza, etc.

Outline of the National Action Plan for Novel Influenza, etc. (1)

- **Formulate the National Action Plan for Novel Influenza, etc. in 2013** (revised in 2017) to **provide preparations to be made in normal times and measures to be taken when an infectious disease emerges** in order to protect the lives and health of the people and minimize the impact on the national life and economy in the event of an infectious disease crisis caused by novel influenza, etc., based on the Act on Special Measures Against Novel Influenza, etc.
- **Revise the national action plan** based on the experience in taking measures against COVID-19
Institutional reforms such as the establishment of the Cabinet Agency for Infectious Disease Crisis Management (CAICM) and the Japan Institute for Health Security (JIHS), the strengthening of governance by expanding the authority for comprehensive coordination and direction by the national and prefectural governments, and the establishment of preparedness systems by concluding agreements in normal times with medical institutions, etc. are reflected in the plan, with the aim of creating a society capable of **responding to crises caused by a wide range of infectious diseases, including novel coronavirus and novel influenza**
- **Formulate and implement basic action policy will be promptly formulated**, based on the characteristics of the infectious disease and scientific knowledge and **by reference to this national action plan** in the next infectious disease crisis

1. Enhancement of preparation in normal times

- "You can't do during a crisis what you can't do during training"
Periodically implement effective training in normal times at relevant organizations of the national government and local governments, etc. and constantly review and improve them
- Conclude agreements with relevant organizations based on the plans under the Infectious Diseases Control Law, etc. by local governments. Ensure rapid **establishment of medical and testing systems in the event of an outbreak of infectious disease**
- Establish **cooperation systems** and networks **between the national government and local governments, etc., JIHS and public health institutes, etc.**

2. Expanding measures and setting cross-cutting perspectives

- Divide the entire procedure into three phases (preparation, initial, and response phases)
- **Increase items** of the measures from six **to 13. Refine the content**
- In particular, upgrade the descriptions of the previous national action plan in items such as **border measures, testing, and vaccines**, and review **the methods of risk communication**, including prevention of prejudice and discrimination and measures against disinformation and misinformation
- Set five cross-cutting perspectives* to strengthen efforts for the items of the measures

* Human resource development, cooperation between the national government and local governments, promotion of DX, research and development support, international cooperation

3. Review measures to deal with a wide range of infectious diseases and flexibly and promptly change measures.

- Review measures **in anticipation of multiple waves of infection in the medium to long term, taking into consideration respiratory infections other than novel influenza and novel coronavirus**
- **Change measures flexibly and promptly** in response to changes in the situation*, based on the balance between prevention of the spread of infection and socioeconomic activities

* Development of testing and medical care delivery systems, dissemination of vaccines and therapeutic agents, socioeconomic conditions, etc.

4. Promotion of digital transformation (DX)

- Promote medical DX, such as digitalization and standardization of vaccination procedures and standardization of electronic medical record information, **to develop a foundation for collecting, sharing, analyzing, and utilizing information between the national government and local governments, etc.**
- In the future, integrate electronic medical records and outbreak reports, and use clinical information for research and development

5. Initiatives to ensure effectiveness

- Promote initiatives in line with the national action plan and **confirm** the implementation status **every year***
* In particular, visualize the development of testing and medical care delivery systems and the stockpiling of personal protective equipment, etc.
- **Revise approximately every six years** based on the revision of plans, etc. under the Infectious Diseases Control Law, etc. and consistency with these plans

Outline of the National Action Plan for Novel Influenza, etc. (2)

Outline of 13 items subject to the measures

(1) Implementation system

- Ensure systems to take effective measures through **mutual cooperation among various entities**, including the national and local governments, JIHS, research institutions, and medical institutions, and through **international coordination**
- Strengthen the response capacity by **securing and developing human resources and conducting practical training** in normal times, and making appropriate policy decisions and implementing policies under the initiative of the **Government Countermeasures Headquarters based on the basic action policy** in emergencies

(2) Information collection and analysis (3) Surveillance

- Implement **efficient and effective surveillance and information collection and analysis in normal times** through the establishment of surveillance and information collection and analysis systems and the promotion of DX
- **Conduct comprehensive risk assessment of infectious diseases and medical conditions, and consideration of the national life and economy** in determining measures against infectious diseases

(4) Providing and sharing of information and risk communication

- Under the infectious disease crisis, there is a risk of conflicting information, **prejudice and discrimination**, and the dissemination of **disinformation and misinformation**
- **Communicate interactively as much as possible** and **share risk information and perspectives** so that **people can make appropriate judgments and actions**, in order to effectively implement measures against infectious diseases
- **Carry out public awareness activities on infectious diseases, establish risk communication systems, and review methods for providing and sharing information, etc. in normal times**

(5) Border measures

- Take comprehensive **border measures, including strengthening of quarantine measures and entry restrictions**, to **slow down the speed of entry and spread of novel influenza virus and other pathogens into Japan**
- Based on the characteristics of pathogens, etc., **comprehensively consider the effectiveness and feasibility of measures and the impact on the national life and socioeconomic activities, etc.** and select and determine border measures to be implemented
- **Review measures, such as reduction or suspension**, as the situation evolves

(6) Prevention of spread

- **Control the speed and peak of the spread of infection** to keep the number of patients requiring treatment within the range of the medical care delivery system while expanding the system
- **Take necessary measures in a timely and appropriate manner in the event of a medical crisis, including intensive measures for prevention of spread of infection, etc. and declaration of a state of emergency, etc.**
- **Reduce or discontinue measures in a flexible manner** in response to changes in the status of vaccines, therapeutic agents, etc.

(7) Vaccines

- Based on the Strategy for Strengthening Vaccine Development and Production System, promote **research and development of vaccines for priority infectious diseases** in normal times and **strengthen the foundation for research and development**
- Establish systems to secure vaccines developed in Japan and overseas and to promote rapid vaccination in emergencies
- Promote **digitalization of vaccination procedures and risk communication**

(8) Medical care

- Provision of medical care is essential to **minimize adverse health effects** and leads to minimal impact on social and economic activities
- Based on prevention plans and medical care plans, establish systems to provide medical care for patients with infectious diseases **through the conclusion of medical care agreements between prefectures and medical institutions** in normal times
- In emergencies, ensure systems capable of providing medical care for patients with infectious diseases, **while keeping in mind compatibility with conventional medical care**, and **respond flexibly and promptly** to situations that change according to pathogenicity, infectivity, transmissibility, etc.

(9) Therapeutics

- Promote research and development of therapeutic agents for priority infectious diseases in normal times to **strengthen the foundation for research and development**
- Provide **consistent measures and support** for research and development, clinical trials, pharmaceutical approval, manufacturing, distribution, administration, collection of prognostic information and response to secure therapeutic agents and establish therapeutic methods in emergencies

(10) Testing

- **Detect patients early and accurately understand the epidemic situation** by conducting timely tests for people requiring tests, in order to appropriately provide medical treatment and take appropriate measures and flexibly change them
- **Secure equipment and materials in normal times, conduct early tests** immediately after the outbreak, and flexibly change policies for conducting tests in light of the characteristics of pathogens and tests after the initial stage of the epidemic

(11) Health

- Protect the lives and health of residents by **taking effective measures in response to local circumstances** in emergencies
- **Implement** at public health centers and public health institutes, etc., prefectural governments, etc. : **tests, active epidemiological investigation, hospitalization recommendations and measures, adjustment of medical treatment facilities, transfers, health observation, provision of foods and daily necessities, etc.**
- **Improve operational efficiency and eliminate labor** in normal times **through the review of priority operations in emergencies and the use of ICT and other procedures**, in preparation for rapid increase in workload

(12) Supplies

- In case of shortage of infectious disease control supplies*, there is a **possibility that the conducting of quarantine, medical treatment, and tests, etc. will be delayed**
 - **Establish systems that ensure the sufficient distribution of infectious disease control supplies** to medical facilities and other necessary institutions through stockpiling in normal times and production requests in emergencies
- * Pharmaceuticals, medical devices, personal protective equipment, etc.

(13) National life and economy

- In the event of an infectious disease crisis, **national life and socioeconomic activities may be greatly affected**
 - It is important to make **necessary preparations for business continuity, etc.** in normal times and to stabilize the situation in emergencies
 - Provide **necessary measures and support* to mitigate the impact by the national government, etc.**
- * Request for a stable supply of daily necessities, measures to prevent the spread of the disease, etc. taking into account the impact on the mind and body, support for persons in need of livelihood support, etc.

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Five cross-cutting perspectives

I. Human resource development

It is important to develop human resources for infectious disease crisis management in normal times from a medium- to long-term perspective

- **Develop highly specialized human resources** through the use of specialist training courses (FETP and IDES training programs), etc.
- **Conduct drills and training** for a wider range of targets (crisis management divisions, public relations divisions, etc.) as an **effort to broaden the base of human resources** for infectious disease crisis management
- Secure and develop human resources in the **region**
Leaders for local measures and staff of public health centers, etc. to be the core in taking measures against infectious diseases

II. Cooperation between the national and local governments

Appropriate division of roles between the national and local governments is important in responding to the infectious disease crisis
(National government: Formulate basic policies; Local governments: Perform operations based on the Infectious Diseases Control Law and the Act on Special Measures, etc.)

- **Establish systems and network for cooperation between the national and local governments, etc.** in normal times for smooth sharing and analysis of data and information on infectious diseases
- Provide appropriate information from local governments to residents and business operators through **information dissemination using various methods** from the national government to local governments
- **Exchange opinions and conduct training** in normal times to continuously strengthen the cooperation system

III. Promotion of digital transformation (DX)

Enhancement of response capacity through promotion of DX and technological innovation is important

- **Develop a foundation for collecting, sharing, and analyzing information** between the national government and local governments, and between government and medical institutions
 - Strengthen the response capacity by **reducing the workload** of public health centers and medical institutions
 - Construct a nationwide network by **digitizing and standardizing vaccination procedures**, and promote medical DX such as standardizing electronic medical record information, etc.
 - Integrate electronic medical records and outbreak reports, and **use** clinical information **for research and development** in the future

IV. Support for research and development

It is important to promote research and development and clinical research from the early stage of crisis response, leading to **early commercialization of vaccines, diagnostic agents, and therapeutic agents**

- **Promote cooperation among medical institutions, research institutes, and pharmaceutical companies and support research and development of companies in normal times** in order to lead to the development of vaccines, diagnostic agents, and therapeutic agents in preparation for emergencies
- **Collect epidemiological and clinical information** from the initial stage under the initiative of the national government
Use the information for clinical research and research and development at relevant organizations

V. International collaboration

As **infectious disease crises spread globally across national borders, international cooperation is essential** in combating diseases

- **Cooperate with international organizations, foreign governments, and research institutions, etc.**
- Through the cooperation, the following will be achieved
 - Collect information in normal times (ascertain trends of outbreaks of emerging infectious diseases, etc. and detect new cases)
 - Collect information in emergencies (take flexible border measures and use the information in research and development)