

Mayor's Message to the Citizens of Hirakata City (April 17th)

Dear the Citizens of Hirakata City

I let you know that a medical staff member of Hirakata City Hospital was confirmed to be coronavirus positive yesterday (April 16th).

In Hirakata, the first patient with novel coronavirus was confirmed on March 3rd. In April, the number of patients is rapidly increasing. So far, 26 citizens including 8 people who have already left hospital have been diagnosed as coronavirus positive.

Since the first patient was confirmed, under cooperation with Osaka Prefectural Government, Hirakata Public Health Centre and Hirakata City Hospital that is registered as a designated hospital for Category II Infectious Diseases undertook the procedures for infectious disease check and active epidemiological investigations. In addition, the staff members of the hospital worked hard day and night to cure the coronavirus patients and to protect Hirakata's and Osaka's health and safety.

But, we have decided to close the hospital due to the fact that a doctor has been diagnosed as coronavirus positive today. We would like to express our apology for making all patients and citizens worry.

We will build up perfect medical system that can meet people's expectations as early as possible. We also will continue to work hard for prevention of infectious outbreaks.

FUSHIMI Takashi
Mayor of Hirakata City
April 17th, 2020