

To: Students and faculty members  
From: Shinji Uemoto, president  
Ikuro Tooyama, vice-president  
International Center (ext. 8741)

Information regarding to the novel coronavirus  
[The 38th report: English version updated on Oct. 5th]

In response to the abolition of the government's basic policy on countermeasures against novel coronavirus infection (May 8, 2023) after changing the status of COVID-19 to Class V Infectious Disease under the Act on the Prevention of Infectious Diseases and Medical Care for Patients with Infectious Diseases, we have been reviewing the guidelines and restrictions on various duties and activities for students, faculty and staff to relax or eliminate them since May 8.

The abolition of the government's basic policy on infection control indicated respect for the implementation of measures with the independent choice and judgment of individuals and organizations in their daily lives. In light of the social permeation of the said policy, **we have decided to further review, relax, or abolish the guidelines and restrictions**, as well as to dissolve the Crisis Response Committee (for COVID-19), which had been responsible for the University's response and coordination.

Now, with this 38th report, we will finish reporting the comprehensive countermeasures against the novel coronaviruses, **yet students, faculty and staff should remember that the risk of infection is still high, and our school is a medical university with a hospital, which has a high level of responsibility as a medical worker and social function maintainer. With this in mind, please continue to respond and act in a manner that takes into account the points listed in this report as a responsible and cooperative individual in this community.**

In addition, the University Hospital has its own measures and precautions. Please confirm e-mails and the homepage of the Infection Control Department for more information about them.

(On-campus only) <http://ulysses.shiga-med.ac.jp/hqsafety/>

[Topics (students and staff)] (Main items revised in the 38th report)

★The items revised in the 38th Report will be **applied from October 10th, 2023**. Until then, please continue to follow the 37th Report (issued on May 2, 2023, English version updated on May 16.) <https://www.shiga-med.ac.jp/corona20200410>

[Behavioral guidelines (students, faculty and staff)]

◎ Sorted out and specified basic guidelines for future

[For students, faculty, and staff]

◎ [2. Wearing a mask], [3. Dining in groups] →Eased the restrictions

◎ [4. Conception of prohibiting commuting to school or work]

→Changed the response flow regarding reporting when becoming positive and abolished the requirement to report about a person you live with who tests positive, etc.

◎ [5. Overseas travel including private trips during holidays]

(Removed the description of “domestic travel”)

→Abolished restrictions on domestic travel

★ The following items listed in the 37th Report describing specific measures and restrictions are eliminated. However, each of them should continue to be addressed and acted upon, keeping in mind the contents of the [Behavioral guidelines (students, faculty, and staff)] which are updated and announced in this report:

[Important items (students, faculty and staff)] “Sanitation on campus”

[For students, faculty and staff]

“Research activities”, “Contact with patients during research”, “Implementation of workshops and lectures”, “Use of sports facilities on campus”

[For students]

“Lectures (including exams)”, “Exercises/Practical trainings (including exams)”, “Job hunting activities for undergraduate students”

[For faculty and staff]

“Subsidiary business”, “Acceptance of researchers from overseas”, “Responding to media coverage”

\* Please refer to each items below for details.

[Behavioral guidelines (students, faculty and staff)] (\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

- Whether in student life, work or private life, **in places where 3C is likely to be, it is necessary to be aware of the risk of infectious diseases and to take the infection prevention measures suggested by the administration, such as hand washing, disinfection and cough care.**

[For students, faculty and staff]

#### 1. Vaccination

- 1) We **recommend** all students, faculty and staff **to get vaccinated.**
- 2) Those students, faculty or staff who choose not to be vaccinated **will have no disadvantages.**
- 3) However, please be aware that outside medical institutions may have different vaccination requirements.

#### 2. Wearing a mask (\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

- 1) All students and staff are **strongly recommended to wear a mask** in the University Hospital, whether conversing or not. On campus, excluding the Hospital, wearing a mask is optional, depending on individual judgement unless otherwise directed.
- 2) Wearing **surgical mask is recommended** instead of a cloth mask or urethane mask from the viewpoint of preventing droplet transmission.
- 3) However, if it is difficult to wear a surgical mask due to various circumstances (physical circumstances such as rough skin, financial circumstances, etc.), wearing other types of masks is permitted.

#### 3. Dining in groups (\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

- 1) **When holding or participating in events that involve food and drink,** measures to prevent the spread of infection should be considered.

#### 4. Conception of prohibiting commuting to school or work

(\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

\* All students, faculty, and staff will no longer be required to report their body temperature, however are encouraged to continue to monitor their health condition by taking their

temperature daily. Regarding the application for undergraduate students, it will continue to be provided as a self-check tool, so please use it as appropriate. (\*Some classes may require you to use it at the direction of the faculty member in charge.)

("Shiga University of Medical Science Student Body Temperature Check App")

<https://fevercheck.shiga-med.ac.jp/student/>

1. Cases of fever of 37.5°C or higher (students, faculty and staff)

1) If you have a fever of 37.5°C or higher, commuting to school or work is prohibited for that day, so you should manage your physical condition by measuring your body temperature twice a day.

2) Commuting to school or work is allowed as long as there is no fever for the day.

2. Case of tested positive (students, faculty and staff) (\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

1) When tested positive, **undergraduate students** should contact the Health Administration Center (stnetsu@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp), and **graduate students and staff members** should contact to the head of the department/division or the supervisor, then send an email from yourself or the head to the dedicated address: corona@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp to **immediately report the following information:**

Title: [Name] [Corona]

Content: (1) Affiliation (2) Name, 6-digit student number (for students) or 4-digit TRUNK ID (for faculty/staff) (3) Name of disease (COVID-19) (4) Date of onset (5) End of the day of stay-home period (6) Whether seen a doctor or not (provide the name of the medical facility)

2) Upon receiving the report, the staff of the Health Administration Center or Infection Control Department will assess and control the situation of the infection. No individual guidance is needed unless there are unusual circumstances.



"Regarding the restriction of commuting for those who are positive"

<http://www.shiga-med.ac.jp/sites/default/files/2023-05/yosei-shugyou-shugaku-seigen-20230501.pdf> (Only in Japanese)



"Flowchart for when tested positive" (\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

<https://www.shiga-med.ac.jp/sites/default/files/2023-10/yosei-flowchart-20231003.pdf>

(Only in Japanese)

3. If a person living with tests positive (students, faculty, and staff)

(\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

1) Although you can commute to campus and work, you must take thorough measures to prevent the spread of infection, such as wearing a mask and eating away from others, whether indoors or outdoors, for five days from the day the person tested positive.

5. Overseas travel, including private trips during holidays

(\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

1) **For overseas travel**, students and faculty/staff **should decide whether or not to proceed, cancel, postpone, continue, or return home in accordance with the "Overseas Risk Information Correspondence Criteria" established by the University** based on the "Risk Information" and "Infectious Disease Risk Information" found on the MOFA's "Overseas Safety Information" website.

(Reference)  "Overseas Risk Information Correspondence Criteria"

<https://www.shiga-med.ac.jp/sites/default/files/2023-03/kaigai-toko-seigen-kijun-20230328.pdf> (Only in Japanese)

\* When traveling overseas, please submit relating documents such as "**Notice of Overseas Travel**" to Management Office of Medical Research (faculty/staff) and to Student Division (students).

Management Office of Medical Research:

077-548-2896, [risk@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:risk@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)

Student Support Section, Student Division:

077-548-2072, [hqshogak@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:hqshogak@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)

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[For students]

<Contact address for consultation>

Lectures / Practices / Exams

Student Division (undergraduate) 077-548-2068 [hqgaku@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:hqgaku@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)

Student Division (graduate) 077-548-2095 [hqgs@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:hqgs@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)

Study support / general student life

Student Division (student support) 077-548-2072 [hqshogak@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:hqshogak@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)

## Health

Health Administration Center 077-548-2087 [hqheadm@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:hqheadm@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)

English support

International Center 077-548-3538 [hqkouryu@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:hqkouryu@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)

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1. Restrictions for undergraduate students from entering the University campus and the University Hospital (\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

1) In case that a cluster or other outbreak of infection occurs among undergraduates, the students may be prohibited from entering the University campus at the discretion of the President.

2) For undergraduate students exercises and trainings, the training area may be restricted, during clinical/on-site clinical training, at the discretion of each department or division (the Hospital will decide whether or not to allow students to enter the building where multiple departments). In case that a cluster or other outbreak of infection occurs among undergraduates, all undergraduate students may be prohibited from entering the University Hospitals at the discretion of the director of the Hospital.

\* [Relating to 2] Please follow the “Guidelines for entering the operating room” when you enter the operating room.

 <https://www.shiga-med.ac.jp/sites/default/files/2023-05/shujutubu-shishin-20230508.pdf> (Only in Japanese)

2. Clinical/On-site clinical training (\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

1) In the University Hospitals (including National Hospital Organization Higashi-ohmi General Medical Center, JCHO Shiga Hospital and Kohka Public Hospital), **the training format will be participatory type** after consideration given to preventing the spread of infection.

2) For restrictions on entering to the University Hospitals, please refer to the item, [For students] "1. Restrictions for undergraduate students from entering the University Hospital."

3) Clinical/On-site clinical training at cooperating medical institutions outside the university **will be conducted in a face-to-face format as much as possible** depending on the situation of the cooperating institutions.

\* Regardless of 1), the clinical training **may be changed to observership only, cancelled or postponed at the discretion of the Director of the Hospital** depending on the situation

of the spread of infection, etc.

\*Regardless of 3), depending on the situation of the spread of infection, off-campus clinical/on-site clinical training may be changed to a remote format or small group training using simulators (on campus), or may be cancelled or postponed at the discretion of the Director of the Academic Affairs. In case of cancellation or postponement, alternative measures will be implemented.

### 3. Extracurricular activities (\*Updated Oct. 3, effective Oct. 10)

1) Following the guidelines of each sport organization or Japan Sports Agency, please consider to prevent the spread of infection when conducting extracurricular activities. The permission of counselor or supervisor in each club is needed. More detailed information will be given from Student Division.

2) However, considering the current situation, **please perform the activities within "UNIVAS guidelines (March 13, 2023 edition)" phase 2-5 shown in "Table 2. Example of gradual resumption plan of sports activities"**. Student Division informs the details.

3) Training camps, expeditions, tournament/match participation, concerts, and live performances will be handled as follows. Student Division will inform the details.

(1) For the activities in Phase 5 of the activity level defined by the University, notification system is applied.

(2) For the activities in Phase 2-4 of the activity level defined by the University, permit system is applied, with consideration to the situation of infection spread.

4) Regardless of 1)-3), there are no particular restrictions on remote format activities.

★ [Relating to 2] The restrictions will **be relaxed or tightened within the range from Phase 2 (small group practice) to Phase 5 (team practice including full contact)** for both indoors and outdoors, on and off campus only after taking into consideration the situation of the spread of infection. Details will be notified by the Student Division.

★ If you are tested positive and are prohibited from commuting, follow the guidelines in "Regarding the restriction of commuting for those who are positive" (\*refer to [For students, faculty, and staff]) 4. Case of tested positive (students, faculty and staff), and **please voluntarily take thorough prevention measures until after 10 days from the onset of symptoms, even if you have returned to class.**

 "Regarding the restriction of commuting for those who are positive"

<http://www.shiga-med.ac.jp/sites/default/files/2023-05/yosei-shugyou-shugaku-seigen-20230501.pdf> (Only in Japanese)

(Japan Sports Agency)

[https://www.mext.go.jp/sports/b\\_menu/sports/mcatetop01/list/detail/jsa\\_00021.html](https://www.mext.go.jp/sports/b_menu/sports/mcatetop01/list/detail/jsa_00021.html)

(UNIVAS: version 2023.3.13)

<https://img.univas.jp/uploads/2023/03/4846dd7d4db51474115572adb3feee48.pdf>

\* When you are **hosting or attending events where food and drink are involved**, please **take thorough measures to prevent the spread of infection**.

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[Others]

1. Acceptance of hospital training, tours, etc.

1. Outside medical students

1) Acceptance of practical training and tours at the University Hospitals is permitted on the condition that consideration is given to preventing the spread of infection. It should be within the limits that do not exceed the restrictions in place at the time of acceptance for the conduct of clinical/on-site clinical training for undergraduate students of this University.

\* For the restrictions on clinical/on-site clinical training for undergraduate students of this University, please refer to the item [For students] "1. Restrictions for undergraduate students from entering the University Hospital" and "2. Clinical/On-site clinical training."

2. Outside doctors, dentists, nurses, medical staff

1) Acceptance of practical training and tours at the University Hospitals is permitted with the condition of consideration is given to the prevention of the spread of infection.

3. [For all] Outside medical students and doctors, dentists, nurses, medical staff

1) As a general rule, acceptance of practical training that can be conducted using alternative means of non-contact with patients and face-to-face with a small number of people, such as use of a simulator, is permitted as long as it is on the university campus (not in the University Hospital.)

★ [Regarding 1-3] During training, you should monitor your own body temperature. However, if you develop a fever (37.5°C or higher) or if there is a cluster or other infectious outbreak at the institution hosting the training, the clinical/on-site clinical training will be canceled. In this case, please report immediately to your host department/section and follow their instructions.

★ [Regarding 1-3] If you or a person living with tests positive, please refer to [For students, faculty, and staff] "4. Conception of prohibiting commuting to school or work" for the measures to be taken.

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[Related Information Websites]

(\* Please confirm as appropriate.)

Cabinet Secretariat (Correspondence of new coronavirus infectious disease)

<https://corona.go.jp/>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Overseas Safety Website

<http://www.anzen.mofa.go.jp> (PC version, smartphone version)

<http://m.anzen.mofa.go.jp/mbtop.asp> (mobile version)

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Correspondence to measures against infectious diseases related to the new coronavirus)

[https://www.mext.go.jp/a\\_menu/coronavirus/index.html](https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/coronavirus/index.html)

Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (New coronavirus infection)

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

Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (Contact for information and consultation on COVID-19)

[https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou\\_iryuu/covid19-kikokusyassessyokusya.html](https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/covid19-kikokusyassessyokusya.html)

Shiga prefecture homepage

<https://www.pref.shiga.lg.jp/>

Note: In the event of discrepancy between the English version and the Japanese version of the terms, the Japanese-language version shall prevail. If you have any questions, please contact International Center Tel: 077-548-3538/ [hqkouryu@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp](mailto:hqkouryu@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp)