

Dear Members of AORI,

On July 12, a government emergency declaration was issued to Tokyo. Along with this, the level of the University of Tokyo's activity restriction guidelines has also changed to Level B (<https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/covid-19/en/policies/index.html#id01>). Responding to the change, the AORI set the Activity Guideline as attached.

There are no substantial changes to the infection control measures, but please act according to the attached guidelines. In particular, the number of people infected with mutant strains, which are highly infectious and are said to be prone to become severe even for young people, is increasing. I ask all members of AORI to thoroughly implement putting a mask, hand washing / sanitization, avoid the status so-called San-Mitsu (3密: closed spaces, crowds, and close contact), sanitization of doorknobs / switches, ventilation, etc., assuming that asymptomatic infected persons are around. When you have to remove your mask, e.g., eat, drink, smoke, brush your teeth, take a photo, etc., be aware that you will not talk even for a short time. At lunch, please eat silently or individually, and have a conversation after eating with putting a mask.

At the Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute (Kashiwa campus), please carry out research and education activities thoroughly implementing the above measures. But for business trips and visits by outpatients (excluding work such as commuting and daily delivery), please refrain except for urgent research and education activities. For the urgent and important activities, apply for permission from the director (kyoka@aori.u-tokyo.ac.jp) after obtaining the permission of the superior / field chief in advance.

Regarding vaccination against new coronavirus infection, it is difficult to get vaccination at the UTokyo at an early stage, as noticed from the headquarters of the UTokyo. So, please proceed with vaccination according to the procedure in your local government. If you need to be treated after vaccination due to symptoms (side reactions, etc.), you can take a special leave for a certain period of time. For details, please check the email from the general affairs team (June 18) or contact the general affairs team.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Director, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute
Tomohiko Kawamura