

Jan. 21, 2022

Message from Director

Dear Members of AORI,

Due to the spread of Omicron variant, the number of people infected with the new coronavirus is increasing rapidly nationwide. Responding to the situation, intensive anti-coronavirus measures is applied to 13 prefectures including Tokyo from today (January 21). Since our important events such as regular and entrance examinations, defenses, are scheduled from the end of January to February, it is necessary to further strengthen infection control measures for your health and to carry out these events safely.

Under these circumstances, the "The Activity Restriction Level of UTokyo" will be raised to Level B from January 24 (Monday). The guideline of the AORI is also Level B. There are no substantial changes to infection control measures, so I ask for your continuous cooperation in preventing the spread of infection.

In particular, we ask all of you to thoroughly wear masks, hand washing / disinfection, avoid 3密 (san mitsu: closed spaces, crowds, and close contact), disinfection of doorknobs / switches, ventilation, etc., assuming that asymptomatic infected people are around. When you have to remove your mask at eating, drinking, smoking, washing your teeth, take a photo, etc., do not talk even for a short time. At lunch, please try to eat silently or individually, and have a conversation after eating with wearing a mask.

Please conduct research and education activities following the counter measures. Also, please consider working from home and hold lectures, seminars, meetings online as much as possible. Please refrain from business trips and accepting visitors as much as possible, except for those with urgent research and educational need. For urgent and important activities that must be implemented, obtain permission from your superior in advance and apply for permission from the director using the application form below.

Business trip permit application: <https://forms.gle/n6XTCHYerN3cBQeD7>

Visitor acceptance permission application form:

<https://forms.gle/Cz1k5TnmgEXZtUS27>

The MEXT announced to take a counter measure to prevent further spread of the Omicron variant. If the health center informs you that you have become a "close contact person", you will have to stay at home for 10 days from the day of the last contact. In the case, please follow the instruction and contact to your superior.

In order to conduct many important events at the end of the semester under safe condition, I ask for your special consideration and cooperation to prevent the spread of infection.

Director, Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute
Tomohiko Kawamura
