

Eliminate prejudice and discrimination related to infectious diseases

During the COVID-19 pandemic, due to a lack of knowledge and understanding about infectious diseases, there were various unfair discriminatory acts and treatment against infected people, their families, institutions to which they belong and healthcare workers.

Such prejudice and discrimination are absolutely unacceptable.

Acts such as identifying infected people and spreading their information on social media, or defamation related to infectious diseases, may result in civil liability for damages or criminal liability under the law.

Anyone can be infected by a virus.

Based on accurate knowledge and understanding of infectious diseases, take a calm action with consideration for each other's human rights.

It is one of the important measures to protect your loved ones.

For consultations about prejudice and discrimination related to infectious diseases, please contact the following

If you are struggling or have concerns, don't hesitate to seek advice.

For adults



Human Rights Hotline 110
(Ministry of Justice)

0570-003-110



Internet Human Rights
Consultation
(Ministry of Justice)



Women's Human Rights Hotline
(Ministry of Justice)

0570-070-810



General Labor Consultation
(Ministry of Health,
Labour and Welfare)



For children



24-hour Child SOS Dial
(Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science and Technology)

0120-0-78310



Child Rights SOS Mini Letter
(Ministry of Justice)



Child Rights Hotline 110
(Ministry of Justice)

0570-070-810



Legal Affairs Bureaus LINE
Human Rights Consultation



For foreign nationals



Telephone Counseling
0570-090-911

(Available in 10 languages)



Counseling on the Internet &
Face-to-face Counseling



English	Nepali (नेपाली)	Chinese (中文)	Spanish (Español)	Vietnamese (Tiếng Việt)	Spanish (Español)	Filipino	Korean (한국어)	Indonesian (Bahasa Indonesia)	Portuguese (Português)	Thai (ภาษาไทย)
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Up-to-date information

It will be shared regularly through the official websites and social media accounts of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and other related agencies. Please check them out.



Official SNS of
the Cabinet
Agency for
Infectious
Disease Crisis
Management

WEB



X



Facebook



Instagram



youtube



Official SNS of
the Ministry of
Health, Labour
and Welfare

WEB



X



Facebook



LINE



youtube



Examples of prejudice and discrimination under Infectious Disease Crisis

During the COVID-19 pandemic, various cases of unfair discriminatory treatment related to infectious diseases were reported.

Internet and SNS



- Searching for photos of infected people online, so-called "culprit hunting"
- Spreading information on SNS about workplaces or destinations of infected people and their family members

Prejudice and discrimination against healthcare and nursing professionals



- Defamation against healthcare and nursing professionals working at facilities where infections occurred
- Bullying or refusal to allow children of healthcare and nursing professionals to attend daycare or school

Prejudice and discrimination in schools regarding outbreaks



- Defamation and refusal to interact with students or school staff involved in clusters in dormitories or club activities
- Verbal abuse and defamatory phone calls toward schools with infection cases or infected students from nearby communities

Prejudice and discrimination in workplaces



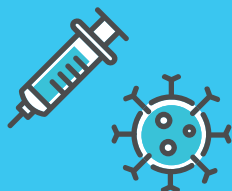
- Dismissal from work due to positive test results or infections
- Demands from employers to submit written explanations for taking paid leave due to family infections

Detailed reporting involving personal information



- Reports disclosing personal relationships between infected people, close contacts, and clusters
- Reports on people who traveled to or from restricted areas during observation periods, including their affiliations and nationalities

Others



- Discriminatory behavior and refusal of services toward out-of-prefecture residents or those with out-of-prefecture license plates
- Discriminatory posters targeting foreign nationals related to infectious diseases
- Discrimination against unvaccinated individuals (e.g., termination of contracts, exclusion from practical training, etc)

For detailed information about prejudice and discrimination, please refer to the following

Working Group on Prejudice, Discrimination, and Privacy Summary of Discussions
(November 2020, Subcommittee on COVID-19 Countermeasures)
Eliminate prejudice and discrimination related to infectious diseases (Ministry of Justice)



Cabinet Agency
for Infectious Disease Crisis Management