

## Message from the President (regarding the COVID-19 Vaccination)

To all students, faculty and staff members,

Recently, the number of confirmed COVID-19 infections in the Kansai area, including Kyoto City, has been significantly increasing. Compared to previous statistics, the current figures show a particularly high rate of infection among young people. Please, therefore, exercise an even greater degree of caution to prevent the spread of the virus in the course of your daily lives.

As the summer vacation period begins, I would like to urge our students, faculty, and staff members to receive the COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible.

The vaccine is highly effective, not only in preventing people from being infected, but also in reducing the risk of infection in the local community, at home, and on campus. We currently face a rapid spread of infection, and are in a race against time. Since last month, Kyoto University has been providing COVID-19 vaccinations for its students, faculty, and staff members at the Kyoto University Hospital. The university has also taken the necessary preparations to deal with any adverse reactions to vaccinations, including the provision of information and consultation services.

The COVID-19 vaccinations shall be provided only to persons who wish to receive them, and those who do not receive a vaccination shall not be disadvantaged or discriminated against in any way. However, to increase the efficacy of virus prevention on the university's campuses, it is vital that as many as students, faculty, and staff members as possible receive the vaccination. Having said that, the vaccines do not provide an absolute guarantee of protection against the virus. Please therefore continue to take all possible measures to prevent the spread of infection, including wearing a face mask and avoiding the "3Cs" of Closed spaces, Crowded places, and Close-contact.

As the fall semester approaches, the university will continue its efforts to facilitate the best possible education and research activities, with as much interaction as possible between students, faculty, and staff members. I ask for your continuing cooperation.

Nagahiro Minato  
President

August 4, 2021