

Notice regarding “Recommendation for Hospitalization Based on the Infectious Diseases Act”

Kagawa Prefecture

It has been reported to the public health center by your doctor that you have been diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB).

Because of the risk of spreading TB, you should be hospitalized and receive appropriate medical care.

Hospitalization and related expenses

- ◇ If TB symptoms pose a risk of infecting others, based on the provisions of the Infectious Diseases Act, the director of the public health center can recommend a 72-hour emergency hospitalization and hospitalization for up to 30 days and can extend hospitalization every 30 days thereafter. If you do not follow the recommendation, you may be hospitalized involuntarily.
- ◇ For requirements for discharge from the hospital, please see other page.
- ◇ With regard to medical fees for TB treatment during hospitalization, depending on the amount of income-based resident tax of the household, fees will be waived or partially covered by public funds (if the total amount of income-based resident tax of all household members exceeds 564,000 yen). However, please note that there are certain services that are not covered by public funds or insurance and for which you are required to pay fees.
- ◆ A recommendation letter (*Kankoku-sho*) or an implementation letter (*Sochi-sho*) (Forms 42 to 45) will be required when applying for a public subsidy for medical expenses, etc., so please keep it in a safe place and do not lose it.

If you have any opinions about recommendation for hospitalization

- ◇ You may state your opinion about recommendation for hospitalization, file a complaint about the treatment you receive during your hospitalization with, or submit a request for discharge from the hospital to the director of the public health center, either orally or in writing.
- ◇ However, the final decision on whether to recommend or extend hospitalization will be made by the director of the public health center after hearing the opinions of the Infectious Disease Examination Committee.

Depending on your medical condition, a recommendation for hospitalization may be made regardless of the opinions submitted.

If you are dissatisfied with hospitalization measures

- ◇ If you are dissatisfied with this disposition, you can file a request for review with the Governor of Kagawa Prefecture within three months from the day following the date you became aware of this disposition, pursuant to the Administrative Complaint Review Act, and can file a lawsuit to revoke the disposition within six months, naming Kagawa Prefecture as the defendant.

In addition, if the period of hospitalization due to this disposition exceeds 30 days, you can submit a request for review to the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare in writing or orally, pursuant to the provisions of Article 25, Paragraph 1 of the Infectious Diseases Act.

If you escape from the hospital or refuse hospitalization without reasonable grounds

- ◇ If you escape from the hospital or refuse hospitalization without reasonable grounds, you may be subject to a fine of up to 500,000 yen, pursuant to Article 80 of the Infectious Disease Act.

Requirements for discharge from the hospital

- ◇ You may be discharged from the hospital if the following conditions are met:
You no longer have symptoms such as cough, phlegm, and fever, and you have three consecutive negative results in sputum culture tests on different days.
The third test may be a nucleic acid amplification test.
However, even if you do not meet the above conditions, if you meet all of the following conditions 1 to 3 and have permission from your doctor and the director of the public health center, you may be discharged from the hospital.
 1. You have received standard chemotherapy for more than two weeks, and clinical symptoms such as cough, phlegm, and fever have disappeared.
 2. After more than two weeks of standard chemotherapy, you have three consecutive negative results from sputum smear or culture tests conducted on different days.
 3. You understand the importance of continuing treatment and preventing the spread of infection, and it has been confirmed that you will be able to continue treatment after discharge from the hospital and prevent infection from spreading to others. (※)

- (*) Conditions to confirm that the patient is able to continue treatment after discharge and prevent infection from spreading to others
- The patient understands the necessity of continuing medication for the period specified by their attending doctor and intends to do so.
 - The patient is taking all prescribed anti-TB drugs.
 - The patient is able to use a medication handbook and other materials to track their medication intake.
 - Medication support (DOTS: Directly Observed Therapy Short-course) has been arranged to prevent the patient from discontinuing medications after being discharged from the hospital.
 - People living with the patient understand the possibility that the patient may infect others and the necessity for the patient to continue taking their medication.
 - The patient is not living with anyone with a weakened immune system or children who have not received a BCG vaccine.
 - The patient is taking measures to prevent spread of infection to others such as paying careful attention to room ventilation and wrapping saliva or phlegm with a tissue and disposing the soiled tissues into a waste bin.
 - The patient covers their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and wears a mask when talking to others.
 - The patient understands the need to seek medical attention promptly if symptoms appear and is willing to do so.

- ◆ The requirements for discharge under the Infectious Diseases Act are as stated above, but the actual timing of discharge may differ. Please consult your doctor.
 - * Infectious Diseases Act: Act on the Prevention of Infectious Diseases and Medical Care for Patients with Infectious Diseases

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