

From December through March, there is concern about the prevalence of influenza. In order to prevent the spread of infection during this time period, we are taking the following measures. We appreciate your cooperation.

Regarding the operations of the Nursery Room for Sick Children during flu season

There is concern over the spread of influenza again this year. During flu season, in order to prevent the spread of infection within the Nursery Room for Sick Children as well as within the affiliated hospital, as a general rule we administer a rapid screening test for influenza virus antigens to children with a fever of 38.5°C or higher. Only those children who have tested negative will be admitted to the Nursery Room for Sick Children.

However, because there is low reliability for rapid screening tests within the first twelve hours of symptom onset, we have set the following criteria for admittance to the Nursery Room for Sick Children during flu season.

- When a fever of 38.5°C or higher is present

If 12 hours have elapsed since the onset of fever, we will administer a rapid screening test for influenza virus antigens.

Positive Test Result → Refused admission to the Nursery Room for Sick Children (Criteria for admission after onset of influenza is listed below)

Negative Test Result → Granted admission to the Nursery Room for Sick Children

- If the child's temperature is already 38.5°C and less than 12 hours have elapsed since the onset of the fever, or if the child's temperature rises above 38.5°C while receiving care at the Nursery Room for Sick Children, the child is eligible for care in the Isolation Room.

(However, if any siblings or family members have contracted influenza, the child may be deemed ineligible for admission to the Isolation Room, or should be picked up mid-care.)

Once twelve hours have elapsed since the onset of fever, we will administer a rapid screening test for influenza virus antigens.

The result of the rapid screening test will adhere to the admission criteria listed above.

- After the onset of influenza, once the fever has receded (to below 38°C) for more than 24 hours, the child will become eligible to use the Isolation Room.

If more than 5 days have elapsed since the onset of influenza and, additionally, the fever has receded for more than 3 days (2 days for schoolchildren), the child will become eligible for regular use of the Nursery Room for Sick Children.

Until these qualifications are met, care is offered in the Isolation Room.

(This is in accordance with Japan's law on school infectious diseases)

◇ With regard to Priority Order for the Isolation Room

An increase of visitors can result in a lack of vacancy in the Isolation Room. In this case, the child who arrives with a fever of 38.5°C or higher and the child who once admitted develops a fever may be refused to use the Isolation Room, or should be picked up mid-care. Thank you for understanding.