

Questions and answers (Tomsk)

Q1.

<Outline of Covid-19 outbreak since 2020>

Could you please tell us about the Covid-19 outbreak in the Tomsk region from January 2020 to the present?

(Please refer to the third slide of the document "Tokyo-Covid19-Countermeasures" by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.)

A1.

Thank you for the question, dear colleague.

In 2021, the maximum proportion among infectious diseases is accounted for by the new coronavirus infection COVID-19 – 62.5%; community-acquired pneumonia - 19.6%.

The number of hospitalized infectious patients in 2021 increased by 28.9%, which is associated with a large number of patients with covid-19 and a significant number of severe forms requiring hospitalization. Mortality from infectious diseases in 2021, taking into account COVID-19, is not high 1.1%. The mortality rate from coronavirus infection caused by COVID - 19 in 2022 was 234.5 per 100 thousand population, which is 8.9 times higher than in 2021.

Q2.

<Covid-19 pandemic impact on other respiratory infections>

Do you see any impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the incidence of community-acquired pneumonia and acute respiratory infections? (slide P.8-11)

A2.

Thank you for the question, dear colleague.

During the epidemic, there was a decrease in the incidence of other acute respiratory infections. I consider, Covid-19, as the newly emerged virus, has displaced other infections.

The first cases of Covid-19 were more often complicated by community-acquired pneumonia.

The low incidence of community-acquired pneumonia in 2021 may be due to the formation of immunity after disease Covid-19 and vaccination.

Q3.

<High rate of the legal immunization coverage>

It is very interesting to see that the legal immunization coverage is over 95%, even during the Covid-19 pandemic. What are the possible reasons for the high immunization coverage in the Tomsk region? (slide P.17)

(In Japan, most of the legal immunization are administered as individual vaccinations. In FY2021, there was a decline in some vaccination rates. Withholding of vaccination and refraining from seeing a doctor during the Covid-19 epidemic, that are being pointed out as one of the factors.)

A3.

Thank you for the question, dear colleague.

During the epidemic, there was a decrease in the incidence of other acute respiratory infections. I consider, Covid-19, as the newly emerged virus, has displaced other infections. The first cases of Covid-19 were more often complicated by community-acquired pneumonia. The low incidence of community-acquired pneumonia in 2021 may be due to the formation of immunity after disease Covid-19 and vaccination.

Q4.

<the mortality and morbidity of tuberculosis>

It is interesting to see various data of infectious diseases. First, I would like to know the reason or background of increasing the mortality rate of tuberculosis in 2022 compared to the one in 2021. The secondly, please tell us about the data of morbidity of TB in 2021 and 2022, if available. The thirdly, have you observed any influences by COVID-19 pandemic on other infectious diseases?