

# JMA and RSMC-Tokyo's Measures against COVID-19

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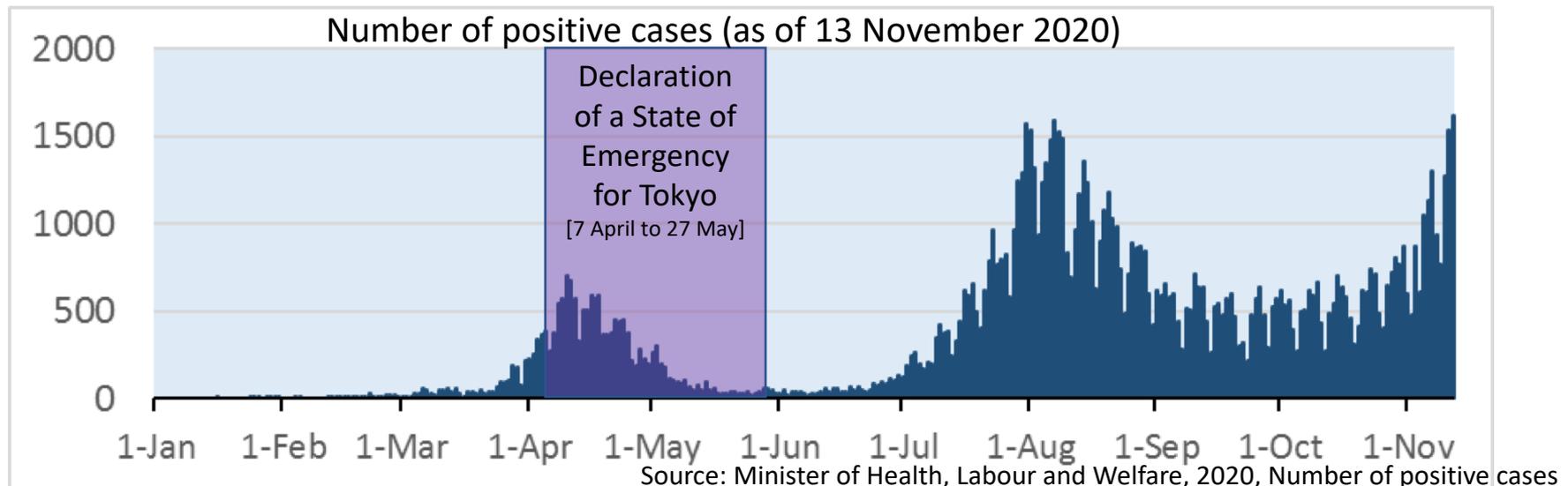
# Outline of this presentation

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- Overview of the COVID-19 pandemic in Japan and JMA's measures
- Measures to **restrict** physical contact between operational forecasters and others
- Measures to **reduce** physical contact among operational forecasters
  - Measures by **hardware** and **software**
- Preparation of **contingency plans**
- Review of the measures

# Overview of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Japan and JMA's measures

- JMA has escalated COVID-19 measures depending on the domestic situation on spreading infection
- In the Headquarters, top-level measures had been implemented from 23 April to 31 May 2020
- Fortunately, we saw no positive cases in JMA's forecasters



JMA's measures:

High-level

Top-level

High-level

# Measures to restrict physical contact between operational forecasters and others

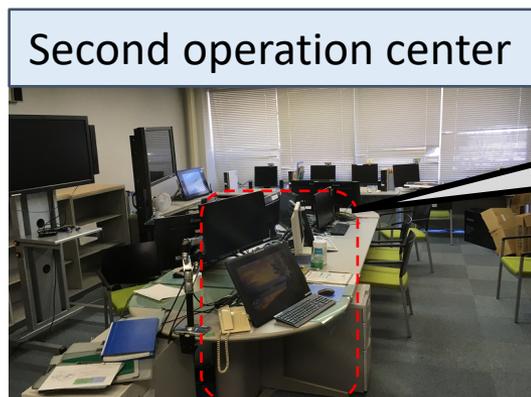
- JMA's Headquarters
  - Restrictions on the admission of visitors
- 24-hour Operation Centers (including adjacent restrooms on the floors)
  - Operational forecasters and authorized personnel only
    - Report needed at every single time when he/she enters



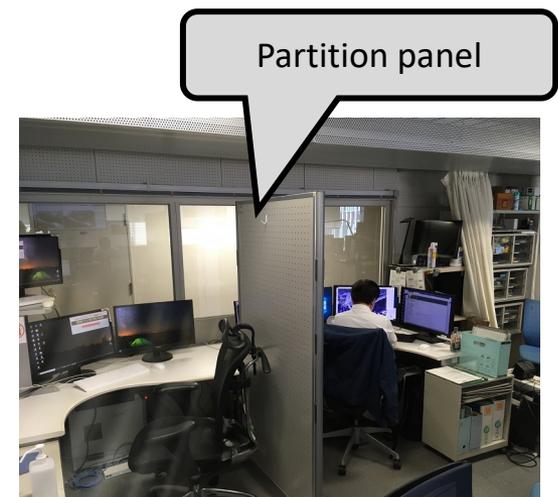
# Measures to reduce physical contact among operational forecasters (1/2)

## Measures by **hardware**

- Establishment of temporally “second” operation centers
  - Day-time-shift forecasters in main operation center
  - Night-time-shift forecasters in second operation center
- Setting partition panels between forecasters
- Setting fixed routes for forecasters to avoid coming across each other



Typhoon monitoring and forecasting PC



# Measures to reduce physical contact among operational forecasters (2/2)

## Measures by **software**

- Installation of business communication platforms



Microsoft Teams



Office Outlook

- Virtual “baton pass” between day and night shifts
- Promoting working-from-home workstyle on every non-duty day
- Frequent ventilation and disinfection
- Sharing synoptic charts without face-to-face manner



## Forecaster's diary (virtual “baton pass”)

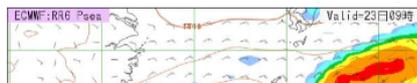
5 本日21日日動、  
05/21 16:29  
です。T当番日誌をお送りします。 2

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・日動

・南シナ海の対流雲域

- 香港の南海上に継続して対流雲が発生している。ECMWFの00UTC解析値における850hPaにおける風の水平シアと対応しており、地上では小さな渦が表現されている。



Synoptic chart box



# Preparation of contingency plans

- Several contingency plans were developed depending on the positive cases to be found in JMA.
  - Fortunately, this contingency plan has not been activated.

Severity: mild -> moderate -> severe 		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Keeping ordinal operation system without positive-case forecasters	Supplying alternate forecasters to operation	Suspension of issuing low-prioritized information

Typhoon advisories are excluded

**RSMC-Tokyo maintains its operation system to constantly provide typhoon advisories and information. 7**

# Review of the measures

- Generally, **well adapting to “with-COVID-19” operation**
    - Partly thanks to nearly absence of severe weather/ typhoons in before-monsoonal (heavy rain) season.
  - Difficulties on urgent establishment of “second” operation centers
    - Preparation of necessary equipment (PCs, telephones, UPSs, printers, chairs and desks)
    - Installation of additional telecommunication lines
-  It is essential to cooperate with relevant departments

**It is important to envision how to respond and prepare for possible situation**



Thank you for your attention