



## ●Tama has initiated its rollout of vaccines targeting the Omicron strain of the coronavirus

The new vaccine is an omicron strain-compatible bivalent vaccine that targets both the initial coronavirus strain and the BA.1 Omicron subvariant. It is expected to be more effective than the conventional vaccine in lowering the risk of severe symptoms from the Omicron subvariants, and whilst the duration of vaccine effectiveness may be short, it is also expected to be effective in preventing infection and onset of disease.

If the interval between vaccinations is reduced from 5 to 3 months, a system will be in place for all those who have received primary vaccination (2 doses) to receive the new vaccine by the end of the year\*. The government plans to make a decision by late October regarding the shortening of the waiting period between shots.

### Eligibility

Coronavirus vaccines that target the Omicron variant are available to people aged 12 or older who have already received the first series of two shots. For eligibility, five months must have elapsed since the last vaccination.

\*Those who have not yet received their primary vaccination (2 doses) will receive the conventional vaccination. Primary vaccinations will continue to be administered after October. (The schedule and other details will be announced via Tama's official website as soon as they have been confirmed.)

\*Those who have made reservations for a 3rd or 4th shot of the COVID vaccine by September 30 may switch from the conventional vaccine to the Omicron-targeting vaccine (at group vaccination sites only).

## ●Children (aged 5-11) are now eligible to receive a third dose of the coronavirus vaccination

Although the Pfizer vaccine for children aged 5-11 is not an Omicron-targeting bivalent vaccine, based on the latest information that it is effective even during an outbreak of the Omicron strain, as of September 6, 2022, such children and their guardians are now required to make an effort to get vaccinated (i.e. to make sincere efforts).

This is intended to solicit widespread public cooperation in the fight against the coronavirus; it is not intended to force people into getting vaccinated. For details, please refer to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare website. URL: <https://www.cov19-vaccine.mhlw.go.jp/qa/0067.html> ⇒



### Eligibility

Children between the ages of 5-11 who have received their primary vaccinations (2 doses) at least 5 months previously are eligible. Guardians must give their consent and be in attendance on the day of vaccination.

### Delivery of Pre-Vaccination Screening Questionnaires for Vaccination (vaccination vouchers)

On September 15, vaccination vouchers for a third booster shot were sent out to children aged 5-11 as of September 25 who had received their 2<sup>nd</sup> shot on or before April 30, 2022.

### Delivery of Pre-Vaccination Screening Questionnaires for Vaccination (vaccination vouchers)

These will be sent out to residents in eligible age groups beginning September 30.

●**Those aged 60 and above:** Vaccination vouchers designating the date and time of vaccination, the group vaccination site and the vaccine to be used will be sent out to all residents aged 60 and over. (All details will be printed on the vaccination voucher but may be changed. For details, refer to the notice enclosed with the voucher.)

●**Those aged 12-59 years:** Reservations can be made as soon as you receive your vaccination coupon. Please refer to the notice enclosed with the voucher for details on making reservations. (Note that you will no longer be able to use vouchers for 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> doses of the vaccine after October.)

### Vaccines to be used

Omicron-targeting bivalent vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna (the Pfizer vaccine will only be used for those aged 12-17).

**Inquiries: Coronavirus Vaccination Call Center 042-313-7003**

\*Vouchers will be sent out to those who completed primary vaccination (2 doses) on or after May 1<sup>st</sup>, from October onwards.

### Group Vaccination

First, second and third doses of the vaccine will be administered from October onwards. Details, including dates, etc. will be posted on the Tama City website as soon as they have been confirmed.

### Reservations & Inquiries

**Coronavirus Vaccination Call Center 042-313-7003**



## ●Tama is now accepting applications for April 2023 enrollment in daycare/kindergarten!

For details on how to apply, please visit the Tama City website or see the “2023 Admission Handbook for Daycare, etc. Enrollment” which is available at the Parenting Support Section (2F City Hall), City Hall Branch Offices (Tama Center, Seiseki Sakuragaoka), Nagayama Community Center, Tama Health Center and all ten regional parenting support centers. **For inquiries, please call the Parenting Support Section: 042-338-6850**

## ●The 45<sup>th</sup> Tama City Community Culture Festival

Twenty-six organizations, including the Association of Tama City Cultural Circles and other culture groups will participate in this festival. This is a month for celebrating community culture that will have Culture Day (November 3) at its center. Tama City International Center will be hosting the following events.

**For inquiries, please call the Association of Tama City Cultural Circles Office: 042-355-2116 (weekdays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; excluding the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month)**

### Tama City International Center “Japanese Speech Contest for Foreign Residents”

◆Sunday, November 6 from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. at Sekido Community Center (Shimin Lobby)

### Tama City International Center “Which national dress is your favorite?”

◆Thursday November 3 (Culture Day) through November 6 From 10 a.m. (noon on Nov. 3) to 5 p.m. (4 p.m. on Nov. 6)  
◆Sekido Community Center Gallery

### Rota of On-Duty Doctors on Holidays 9:00-17:00 TAMA CITY DOCTORS' ASSOCIATION: <http://www.tama-med.or.jp/toban/>

10/16 (Sun.) Ōike Internist Clinic 042-355-7001  
2F Total Bldg. 1-2-2 Higashiterakata  
10/23 (Sun.) Aragaki Naika Geka Clinic 042-373-0514  
3F Shintoshin Center Bldg. 1-24-1 Tsurumaki  
10/30 (Sun.) Nakamura Clinic 5-10-7 Suwa 042-375-7757  
11/ 3 (NH) Tsurumakiyagi Clinic 5-4-1 Tsurumaki 042-319-3449  
11/6 (Sun.) Karakida Ekimae Medical Clinic 042-376-3800  
104 Plaza Karakida, 1-1-7 Karakida  
11/13 (Sun.) Watanabe Clinic 5-8-1 Toyogaoka 042-371-3321

11/20 (Sun.) Fusegawa Clinic 042-373-5858  
1329 Ochikawa

- Emergency cases only
- Be sure to bring your health insurance card and infant healthcare card (if applicable)
- Please visit during clinic hours
- ※Always call in advance
- ※This list is subject to change

### Nighttime Clinic for Children (Pediatrics) Health Center

Please visit this clinic first if your child develops a sudden illness.  
(19:00-21:45) 042-375-0909

**Note** Please call in advance



### Emergency Dental Treatment on Public Holidays

(9:00-15:30 Sundays and public holidays) 042-376-8009

**Note** Please call in advance

### Information on Medical Institutions (available 24/7)

Emergency Call Center (Tama Fire Dept.) 042-375-9999  
Fire Dept. Emergency Consultation Service #7119 (mobiles, PHS, push-button phones) 042-521-2323 (dial-up phones)  
Tokyo Met. Med. Health Info Service (Himawari) 03-5272-0303  
Medical Information in Foreign Languages (Tokyo Metropolitan Health and Medical Information Center)  
9:00-20:00 03-5285-8181

☆**Counseling for Foreign Residents** Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month (1:30-4:30 p.m.)TIC Rm.(7F VITA) \* By appointment only

☆**Japanese Class Schedule** (Classes are free for TIC members)

Class	Venue	Time	Dates	
			October	November
Monday classes	Cocolia Tama Center Career Mam Hall Parthenon Tama (Meeting Rooms 3/4)	10:00-12:00 9:45-11:45	3 <sup>rd</sup> / 17 <sup>th</sup> / 24 <sup>th</sup> (Career Mam Hall)	7 <sup>th</sup> / 14 <sup>th</sup> / 28 <sup>th</sup> (Parthenon Tama)
	Nagayama Community Center (5F Bellebs Hall)	9:30-11:30	5 <sup>th</sup> / 12 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> / 17 <sup>th</sup> / 24 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday classes	TIC Room (7F VITA Commune)	10:00-12:00	15 <sup>th</sup> / 22 <sup>nd</sup> / 29 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> / 13 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup>
		19:00-21:00	8 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup> / 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup> / 13 <sup>th</sup> / 20 <sup>th</sup>
Saturday classes	TIC Room (7F VITA Commune)	14:00-16:00	3 <sup>rd</sup> / 10 <sup>th</sup> / 24 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> / 15 <sup>th</sup>

△For reservations and inquiries regarding the above, please call the TIC Office 042-355-2118

Published on the 10<sup>th</sup> of every month by the Culture & Lifelong Learning Promotion Section, Living & Culture Dept. Tama City Hall 042-338-6882



Prepared & edited by: TAMA CITY INTERNATIONAL CENTER (TIC)

TIC Secretariat: 7F, VITA Commune, 4-72 Sekido, Tama City 206-0011 ☎ 042-355-2118 Fax 042-355-2104

E-mail: [tic@kdn.biglobe.ne.jp](mailto:tic@kdn.biglobe.ne.jp) URL: <https://www.tic-tama.jp>

Office hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Sundays, every 1st & 3rd Monday of the month, national holidays, year-end and new year holidays and extra holidays.

※If you have any comments or requests regarding Hand in Hand in Tama, please send them to the above address. This newsletter is available in four languages (Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean); please contact the TIC Secretariat if you would like a copy. Editing: Tsutomu Mogami Translation: Amanda Wade