

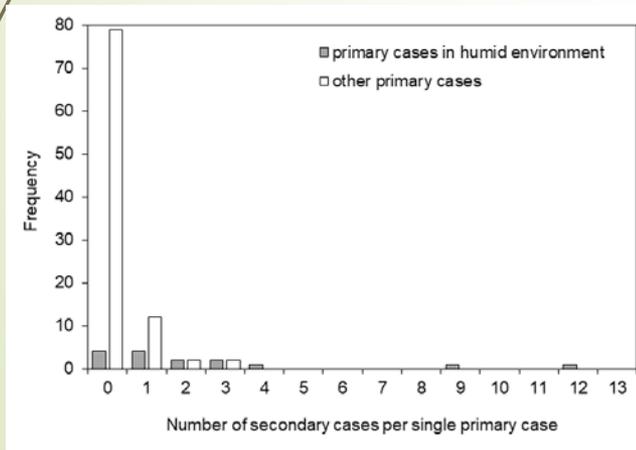


# Japan's COVID-19 Response (2020/7/02)

**OSHITANI Hitoshi**, M.D. Ph.D, M.P.H. - Professor, Department of Virology, Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine; member of government advisory panel on COVID-19

# Epidemiological characteristics of COVID-19 and SARS ①

## SARS



Nishiura H et al. MedRxiv  
<https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.02.28.20029272>

## COVID-19

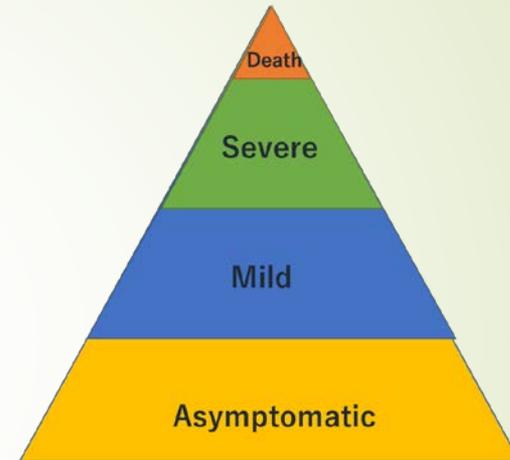
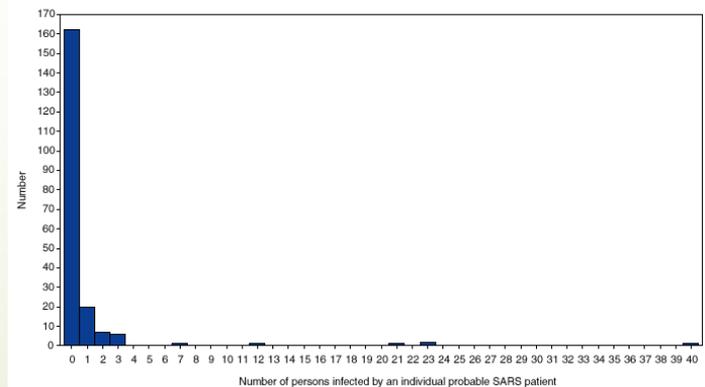


FIGURE 3. Number of direct secondary cases from probable cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome — Singapore, February 25–April 30, 2003



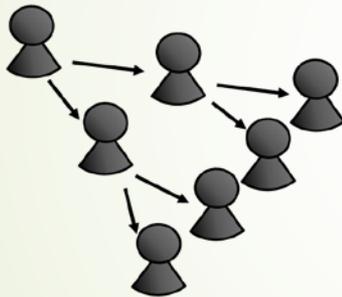
Leo YS et al. MMWR, 52(18); 405-411, 2003

# Japan's cluster-based approach ①

- At an early stage, Japanese public health experts identified the virus' characteristic **mode of transmission**

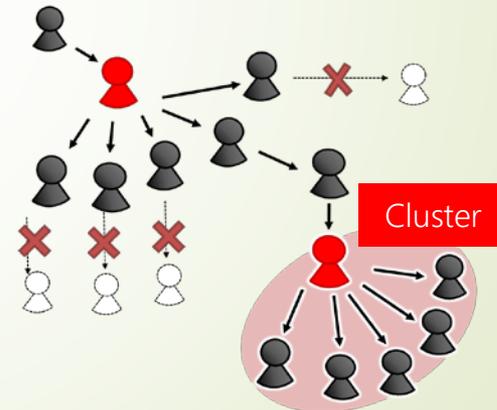
## Influenza

- One infected person infects one or more people



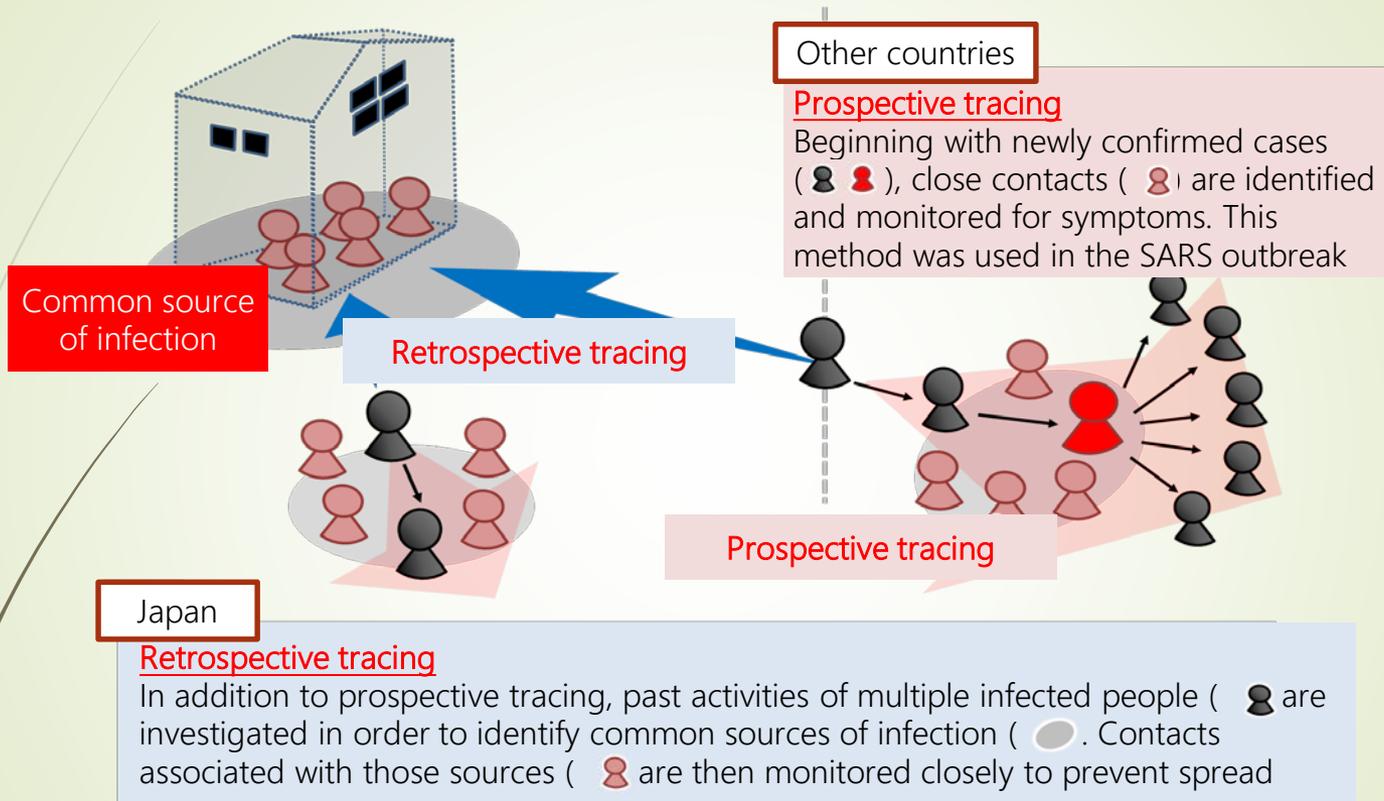
## COVID-19

- Regardless of illness severity, four out of five infected people (👤) do not infect anyone else
- Only one in five infects someone else, and an even smaller minority infects multiple people (👤), leading to the formation of clusters



- ➔ COVID-19 spreads by forming clusters. **Preventing clusters, especially in the early phase of an outbreak, can result in suppression of the virus**

# Japan's cluster-based approach ②



## Identifying cluster sources

The cluster-based approach uses thorough, retrospective contact tracing to identify common sources of infection, which helps suppress further spread

Retrospective tracing can identify infections more efficiently than a strictly prospective approach, enabling more effective control

# The “Three Cs”

- Based on analysis of the shared characteristics of clusters, Japan developed a concept called the “Three Cs” to denote high-risk places and situations
  - Closed spaces
  - Crowded places
  - Close-contact settings
- The public was asked to avoid the Three-Cs; awareness of the term became widespread
- Further analysis of many clusters identified additional risk factors such as exercise, talking in loud voice, singing and nightlife-setting

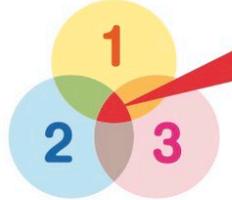
Important notice for preventing COVID-19 outbreaks.

## Avoid the “Three Cs”!

1. **Closed spaces** with poor ventilation.
2. **Crowded places** with many people nearby.
3. **Close-contact settings** such as close-range conversations.



One of the key measures against COVID-19 is to prevent occurrence of clusters. Keep these “Three Cs” from overlapping in daily life.



**The risk of occurrence of clusters is particularly high when the “Three Cs” overlap!**

In addition to the “Three Cs,” items used by multiple people should be cleaned with disinfectant.

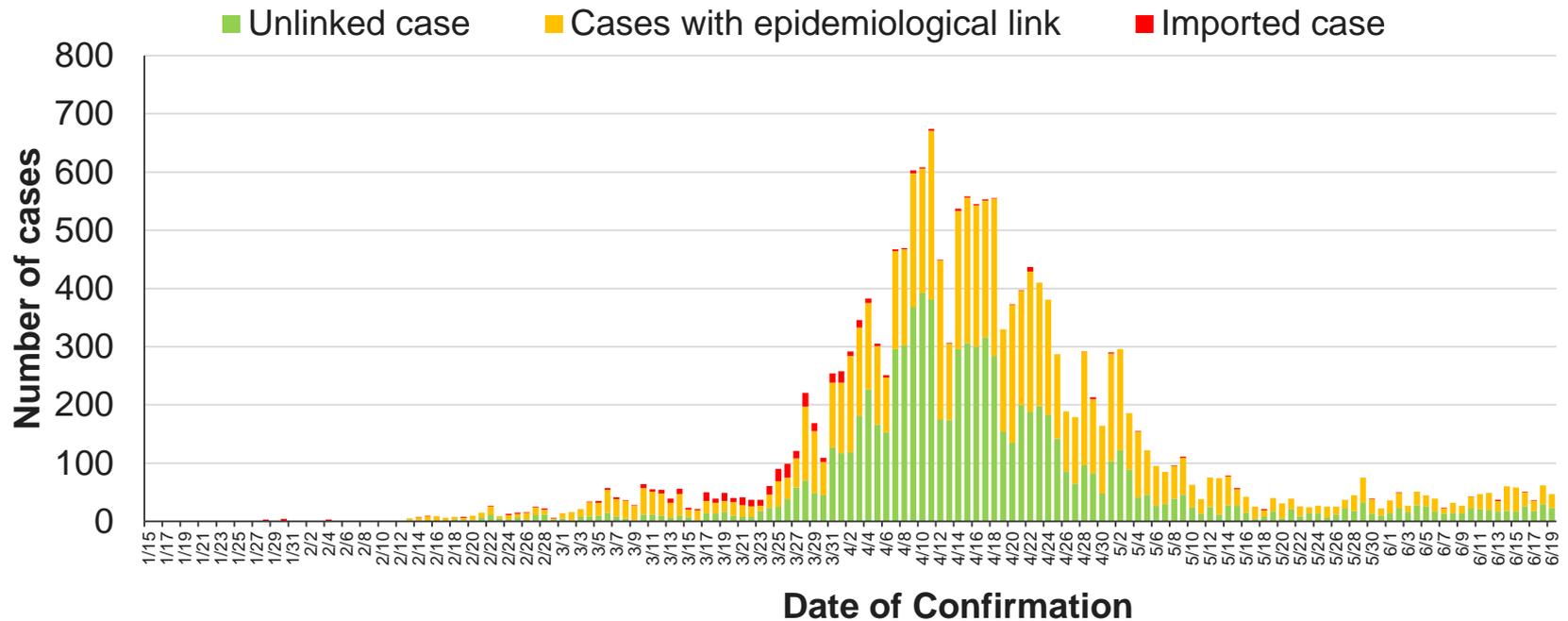
首相官邸  Prime Minister's Office of Japan

厚生労働省  Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

MHLW COVID-19



# Epidemiology of COVID-19 in Japan, January – June 2020



# COVID-19 deaths and deaths per 100,000 in G20 countries

