

## **The Right Decision**

While many countries around the world is now facing the problem of increasing daily infections from COVID-19 and hundreds of thousands of people are suffering each day, Taiwan was able to coped well. In the past two years, Taiwan's highest number of cases is just over 800 for a single day, a very small percentage compared to other countries.

I am a Ph.D. student in Applied Economics at NCHU all the way from Thailand. The situation of COVID-19 in Thailand is now extremely worrying. The number of infected people per day is more than 20,000. Of course, this situation makes Thai people very worried and has been greatly affected.

But good luck sometimes comes out of a calamity. There are still some good things to come as the COVID-19 spreads hard. The thing is that, I am here where the epidemic control and solution is one of the best in the world. It was fortunate that my family was at least able to mitigate my safety concerns. It remains only to focus on the safety of yourself and other family members in Thailand.

So how did Taiwan managed COVID-19 effectively? This is a question I heard a lot when following news from both Thailand and international media. Taiwan have set up an agency that takes care of this problem directly and promptly. Taiwan makes every decision quickly and efficiently. In addition, relevant agencies collaborate and have a good preventive measures and solutions to problems. It also includes the cooperation of Taiwanese citizens and foreigners living in Taiwan who strictly comply with the regulations. This may be the answer to the above question that I realized from my own situation and experience during the COVID-19 epidemic.

One of the factors that's why Taiwan can control the situation effectively is that, Taiwan has a good communication with the target groups including communication with international students. Communication is very crucial. Of course, as an international student living abroad during unusual situations. Anxiety for yourself and your family is multiplied. Even though I have been in Taiwan for a while, the Chinese language is still a huge obstacle for me. Therefore, following Chinese news is impossible. For this reason, getting accurate and quick information is the key that helps to deal with problems and situations. In this regard, NCHU plays an important role that keeps me and all my friends informed and it leads international students to practice in the same direction according to the pandemic measure.

The way NCHU pays attention to international students is something that gives me a lot of peace of mind. We can receive news and important information regularly that are available in English through email, and we can have a special contact channel via Line Official. NCHU also provides special financial assistance for students affected by COVID-19, online teaching management as well as various security measures. All of these have given me the confidence to deal with the epidemic properly.

I believe that pandemic problem will reduce the severity if everyone and the government have a cooperation to solve problems together. These two elements will help make this crisis ends soon. In this regard, I do not forget to wear mask every time I go out as well as frequently washing my hands. It is the responsibility to take care of your health and monitor your own physical and mental health, especially the latter because a healthy mind is important to stay awake in these stressful situations.

The effective health communication and crisis response of NCHU reinforces and reiterates Taiwan's potent management that provides easily accessible healthcare and have an affordable and quality health insurance system. The healthcare system is very essential for a health-conscious student like me when studying abroad because when living in a foreign country if you get sick, it's a big deal, right? And, from this COVID-19 crisis, it has proven that my choice to study in Taiwan and NCHU is the right decision.

Finally, living abroad is not difficult. But staying happy and safe is important. If so, your family will not have to worry about you. We will still have a good experience back home as well. The coronavirus crisis is still a big problem, but in Taiwan, all the variables point to the direction that things are getting better. And, I believe the situation will likely return to normal soon.

