

# PRESS RELEASE

## MERS Daily Report (Sept. 20)

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◇ To strengthen the rapid and transparent sharing of information, the Korea Centers for Disease Control Central Incident Management System (KCDC Central IMS) will regularly release a daily report (once per day) on situation and operations updates in MERS control and prevention measures.

### I. Operations Status (As of 12:00, Sept. 20)

#### 1 Case Overview

○ **Confirmed Cases : 0**

**\*The one confirmed case tested negative and was released from the isolation ward on Sept. 18**

○ **Suspected Cases : All cases tested negative**

(Unit: Persons)

Date	Suspected Case			MERS Testing			
	Total	Close Contacts	Casual Contacts	Total	Positive	Negative	Awaiting Results
As of Sept. 19, 18:00	14	1	13	14	0	14	0
As of Sept. 20, 12:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	14	1	13	14	0	14	0

## **2 Close and Casual Contacts**

- Close Contacts (Active Surveillance\*) : 21 individuals, no change as of yesterday
  - \* Active Surveillance: Taking into consideration that these individuals had close contact with the confirmed case, home quarantine and daily monitoring for potential symptoms are being conducted.
  - Seoul (10), Incheon (5), Gyeonggi (3), Daejeon (1), Busan (1), Gwangju (1)
- Casual Contacts (Active Monitoring\*) : 396 individuals, no change as of 18:00 yesterday
  - \* Active Monitoring: Taking into consideration that these individuals had low levels of contact with the confirmed case, daily monitoring for potential symptoms is being conducted.
  - \* Casual contacts with unconfirmed whereabouts : 0 (all foreign nationals accounted for)
  - Casual contacts from same plane: 311; Other casual contacts: 85

## **II. Measures Taken**

- Close contacts tested a second time
  - Today marks the 13th day of the 14-day monitoring period for close contacts. All quarantined close contacts will be tested again today as part of the monitoring process.
  - \* All close contacts tested negative following the first test on Sept. 13th.
- Upon testing negative, close contacts will be released from quarantine on Sept. 22nd, 00:00.

## **II. Message to the Public**

- KCDC announced that it is collaborating closely with the Seoul Metropolitan Government and other local governments to conduct thorough contact tracing and management of the situation to prevent further spread of the disease.
- KCDC would like to express its appreciation to the close and casual contacts of the confirmed case for their active cooperation. During the remaining duration of the monitoring period, contacts are asked to continue cooperating with monitoring procedures. Individuals who experience any MERS-related symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) are advised not to visit hospitals directly\*; instead, they should report their symptoms to the KCDC 1339 Call Center or their local public health center and follow their instructions.
- \* There is a risk of infecting other individuals by visiting hospitals and emergency rooms.

- Healthcare providers are advised to check the travel history of incoming patients with respiratory symptoms to see if they have recently traveled to the Middle East. The travel history of Korean nationals can be checked through the Drug Usage Review (DUR) system, while that of foreign nationals can be checked through direct questioning. Healthcare providers should report any patients suspected of MERS-CoV infection to local public health centers or call the KCDC Call Center at 1339.
- When visiting the Middle East, individuals are advised to maintain proper personal hygiene, such as washing hands frequently, and to avoid visits to local farms, contact with camels, consumption of raw camel meat or camel milk, and unnecessary visits to local medical facilities.
- Individuals are asked to cooperate with quarantine procedures, such as honestly completing health status questionnaires at the time of entry.

*\* Additional information on the current situation will be provided upon further epidemiological investigation to ensure rapid, accurate, and transparent communication with the public.*

**1 Close Contacts**

- Taking into consideration that close contacts had high levels of contact with the confirmed case, they are undergoing quarantine and daily monitoring for symptoms
- (Active Surveillance) During the monitoring period, close contacts are contacted twice per day by a local government representative to check for fever or respiratory symptoms
- (Home quarantine or quarantine at a facility) During the monitoring period, close contacts are quarantined to restrict movement and prevent contact with others while symptoms are monitored

**2 Casual Contacts**

- Taking into consideration that casual contacts had low levels of contact with the confirmed case, they are undergoing daily monitoring for symptoms
- (Active Monitoring) Although passive surveillance\* is the standard procedure for casual contacts, active monitoring is being implemented in order to strengthen prevention and control measures. As part of active monitoring, a local government representative contacts casual contacts by phone once per day during the monitoring period to check for fever or respiratory symptoms
- \* Passive surveillance: casual contacts are informed to contact their local public health center representative if they experience fever or respiratory symptoms during the monitoring period

### **3 Suspected Cases**

- Individuals under monitoring who experience fever or respiratory symptoms and meet the criteria are classified as suspected cases and undergo further testing
- (Quarantine and Testing) Suspected cases are quarantined and samples are taken for MERS confirmation testing
  - \* Should tests return negative, individuals return to standard monitoring procedures according to their contact classification (i.e., close or casual)

## Appendix 2

# Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) Overview

	Details
<b>Cases and Outbreaks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ MERS cases have been identified in the Middle East around the Arabian Peninsula, with approximately 2,229 confirmed cases around the world from 2012 to June 30, 2018 (according to WHO)</li> <li>▫ Since January 2018, there have been 116 confirmed MERS cases (as of September 8, 2018) in the Middle East (114 in Saudi Arabia*, 1 in UAE, 1 in Oman)</li> <li>* One case was infected in Saudi Arabia and imported the virus to the UK</li> </ul>
<b>Pathogen</b>	▫ Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus ; MERS-CoV
<b>Mode of Transmission</b>	▫ Although the mode of transmission is uncertain, animal-to-human transmission has been observed through contact with infected camels and consumption of camel meat and milk, and limited direct and indirect human-to-human transmission has been observed through droplet infection following close contact with infected individuals
<b>Incubation Period</b>	▫ Approximately 2-14 days
<b>Symptoms and Clinical Course</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ MERS patients usually experience fever, cough, sputum, shortness of breath, and other respiratory symptoms. They may also suffer from diarrhea, vomiting, and other gastrointestinal symptoms.</li> <li>▫ Many patients have low lymphocyte or platelet counts</li> <li>▫ Case Fatality Rate: The prognosis for those with pre-existing conditions or weakened immune systems is rather poor, with a fatality rate of approximately 30%</li> </ul>
<b>Diagnosis</b>	▫ Routing confirmation is conducted by RT-PCR testing of unique sequences of viral RNA; confirmation by nucleic sequencing can be conducted when necessary
<b>Treatment</b>	▫ There is no cure for MERS, but individuals can be treated for their symptoms
<b>Case Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ Cases: Quarantine of suspected or confirmed cases</li> <li>▫ Close Contacts: Passive surveillance of contacts of suspected cases, quarantine and active surveillance of contacts of confirmed cases</li> </ul>
<b>Prevention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▫ Hand washing, cough etiquette, and maintaining proper personal hygiene</li> <li>▫ For travelers to the Middle East <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Avoid contact with camels and crowded areas; wear a mask if you experience respiratory symptoms; avoid contact with those who have respiratory symptoms</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Korea Centers for Disease  
Control & Prevention



## MERS Fact Sheet

### What is MERS?

#### ▲ MERS



MERS is **an acute respiratory disease**  
caused by a new Coronavirus(MERS-CoV)

#### ▲ Symptoms



Fever



Cough



Shortness  
of breath



Sore throat



Vomiting/  
Diarrhea

#### ▲ Incubation Period

Approximately **2 to 14 days**

### Who are possible suspected MERS cases?

1. Those experiencing fever and respiratory symptoms  
(cough, shortness of breath, etc.) and:
  - Have traveled to the **Middle East\*** within 14 days from the onset of symptoms
  - Have had close contact with a symptomatic suspected MERS case
2. Those experiencing fever and respiratory symptoms  
(cough, shortness of breath, etc.) and also had close contact  
with a symptomatic confirmed MERS case

\* The Arabian Peninsula and nearby countries (regions): Bahrain, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, UAE, Yemen

### Infection Route

(In Korea) contact with confirmed MERS case  
(Outside Korea) contact with infected camels,  
consumption of camel meat or camel milk,  
or contact with confirmed MERS case

### General Response Protocol

If you experience any MERS-like  
symptoms (fever, cough, etc.) please  
call the KCDC Call Center at **1339**

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## Preventing MERS Infection

### In Korea

#### How to Prevent



Check MERS related  
information on the  
KCDC website at [cdc.go.kr](http://cdc.go.kr)



Maintain proper personal  
hygiene (frequent hand washing  
and covering your mouth  
and nose with your sleeves  
when coughing)



Avoid touching your eyes,  
nose and mouth  
with unwashed hands

#### If MERS Infection is Suspected



If you experience fever and  
respiratory symptoms within  
14 days of traveling to the  
Middle East, report to the  
KCDC 1339 Call Center or your  
local public health center



If you do not experience  
any symptoms, feel free to carry  
out your daily activities as usual

### Outside Korea (the Middle East)

#### Prevention guidelines when traveling to the Middle East



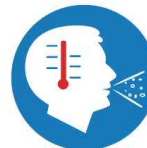
When traveling to the Middle East,  
avoid visiting local farms,  
direct contact with camels,  
and consumption of  
raw camel meat or milk



Avoid visiting crowded areas  
(if you must visit, wear a mask)



Avoid visiting local healthcare facilities,  
unless you need necessary  
medical treatment  
(wear a mask when visiting)



Avoid direct contact  
with anyone showing  
MERS-like symptoms,  
such as cough or fever



Maintain proper personal  
hygiene (frequent  
hand washing, covering your  
mouth and nose with your  
sleeves when coughing, etc.)



When entering Korea after traveling  
to the Middle East, submit the  
provided health questionnaire.  
If you experience symptoms within  
14 days after returning home, call  
the KCDC Call Center at 1339 or  
your local public health center



إذا كان لديكم حمى وأعراض تنفسية، نرجو منكم الاتصال برقم **1339** الخاص بمركز الاتصالات التابع لهيئة السيطرة الكورية على الأمراض والوقاية منها، قبل أن تزوروا أي مستشفى أو عيادة طبية، حتى يتم منع انتشار المزيد من العدوى.



발열과 호흡기 증상이 있다면 감염 전파 방지를 위해 **의료기관 방문 전에** 질병관리본부 콜센터 **국번없이 1339**로 전화하세요



## كل ما تحتاج لمعرفته حول فيروس ميرس

메르스 바로 알기



### كيف يتم الإصابة بميرس؟



- 1 الاتصال بجمل
  - 2 تناول حليب الإبل الخام
  - 3 الاتصال المباشر مع مريض مصاب بميرس أو القرب منه
- 메르스 환자와 직접 또는 간접한 접촉

### من يجب عليه الإبلاغ؟

- 1 من هو المريض المشكوك بإصابته بميرس؟  
 메르스 의심환자란?  
 (1) من بين أولئك الذين لديهم حمى وأعراض تنفسية (السعال وضيق التنفس والالتهاب الرئوي ومتلازمة ضيق التنفس الحادة وغيرها)  
 발열과 호흡기증상(기침, 호흡곤란, 폐렴, 급성호흡곤란증후군 등)이 있으면서  
 - الشخص الذي زار دول الشرق الأوسط\* في غضون 14 يوما قبل ظهور الأعراض  
 증상이 나타나기 전 14일 이내에 중동지역\*을 방문한 자  
 - الشخص الذي اتصل اتصالاً قريباً مع مريض مشكوك بإصابته بميرس  
 في أثناء إظهاره أعراض ميرس  
 메르스 의심환자가 증상이 있는 동안 밀접하게 접촉한 자
  - 2 من بين أولئك الذين لديهم حمى وأعراض تنفسية (السعال وضيق التنفس وغيرها)، الشخص الذي اتصل اتصالاً قريباً بمريض تم التأكد من إصابته بميرس في أثناء إظهاره أعراض ميرس  
 발열 또는 호흡기증상(기침, 호흡곤란 등)이 있고,  
 메르스 확진환자가 증상이 있는 동안 밀접하게 접촉한 자
- \* شبه الجزيرة العربية والدول (المناطق) المجاورة لها: البحرين، العراق، إيران، إسرائيل، الأردن، الكويت، لبنان، عمان، قطر، السعودية، سوريا، الإمارات، اليمن (السعودية والإمارات وعمان وقطر والكويت هي الدول التي تفشي فيها فيروس ميرس في عام 2016 ، وتمثل المناطق الملوثة بالأمراض المعدية الخاصة بالبحر الصحي. ويجب على زوار هذه الدول أن يملأوا بيانات عن الحالة الصحية عند دخول كوريا ويتقدموا بها إلى موظفي الحجر الصحي)

아랍에미리트, 사우디아라비아, 시리아, 아랍에미리트, 예멘, 오만, 카타르, 쿠웨이트는 감염감염병  
 2015년 메르스 발생국가인 사우디아라비아, 아랍에미리트, 예멘, 오만, 카타르, 쿠웨이트는 감염감염병  
 오염지역으로 입국 시 반드시 건강상태 질문서를 작성하여 감염관에게 제출해야 함

### ما هو ميرس؟

هو الأمراض التنفسية الحادة التي يسببها  
 فيروس كورونا الجديد (MERS-COV).

신종 코로나바이러스(MERS-COV)에 의한  
 급성호흡기 질환을 말합니다.



### 1 العلامات والأعراض



الحمى  
 السعال  
 ضيق التنفس  
 التهاب الحلق  
 القيء/ الإسهال  
 발열  
 기침  
 호흡곤란  
 인후통  
 구토, 설사

### 2 فترة الكمون

من يومين إلى 14 يوما (تقريباً) 2~14일 정도로 추정

### ما الذي يجب الالتزام به من أجل الوقاية من الإصابة بميرس؟

감염 예방 수칙

- 1 اغسلوا أيديكم بالماء والصابون.  
 물과 비누로 자주 손씻기
- 2 حافظوا على النظافة الشخصية الجيدة (لا تلمسوا أعينكم أو أنوفكم أو أفواهكم قبل غسل أيديكم).  
 개인 위생 철저 (씻지 않은 손으로 눈, 코, 입 만지지 않기)
- 3 عندما تسعلون أو تعطسون، تأكدوا من تغطية أفواهكم وأنوفكم بمنديل ورقي ثم إلقائه في سلة القمامة.  
 기침, 재채기 시 휴지로 입과 코를 가리고, 휴지는 반드시 쓰레기통에 버리기
- 4 تجنبوا الاتصال المباشر مع الناس الذين لديهم حمى أو أعراض تنفسية.  
 발열이나 호흡기 증상이 있는 사람과 접촉을 피하기
- 5 تجنبوا الاتصال المباشر مع الجمال في أثناء السفر إلى دول الشرق الأوسط.  
 중동 지역을 여행하는 동안 낙타와 접촉을 피할 것

## Appendix 4

# Steps to Prevent MERS

### Before Traveling

- \* Confirm the local MERS risk status of your destination
  - ※ Visit the KCDC website for more information ([cdc.go.kr](http://cdc.go.kr))
- \* Young children, those 65 years and older, pregnant women, cancer patients, and other individuals with weakened immune systems should be advised not to travel to such areas

### While Traveling

- \* Maintain proper personal hygiene and wash your hands frequently
- \* Avoid visiting local farms or contact with animals (especially camels)
- \* Do not consume raw camel meat or milk
- \* Do not visit local healthcare facilities or heavily crowded areas unless absolutely necessary (if you must, wear a mask)
- \* Avoid contact with individuals who have fever or respiratory symptoms
- \* Wear a mask if you experience any respiratory symptoms
- \* Cover your mouth and nose with your sleeve when coughing or sneezing

### After Traveling

- \* If you have any MERS-related symptoms at the time of arrival in ROK, report to a quarantine officer immediately after disembarking the plane
- \* If you experience any MERS-related symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) call the KCDC 1339 Call Center or your local public health center first before visiting a healthcare facility