



**World Health
Organization**

Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS – CoV)

Situational Update

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Presentation Outline

- Disease Burden
- Epidemiological Profile
- Transmission Risks
- Situational Assessment



Disease Burden

A total of **920** laboratory confirmed cases reported to WHO since the start of this outbreak in 2012.

- 9 cases in 2012
- 168 cases in 2013
- 743 cases in 2014

At least 313 deaths



Epidemiological situation

- In total, 920 laboratory-confirmed cases have been reported to WHO since September 2012. These include asymptomatic cases.
- Median age 47 years (range 3 months–94 years)
- 63% of cases are male (n=920)
- 26% (236/920) reported as healthcare workers
- Severity:
 - 46.1% (425) severe/ fatal
 - 20.3% (187) moderate
 - 26.4% (243) asymptomatic /mild
 - 7.2% (66) not reported
- 313 deaths



Cases by Country

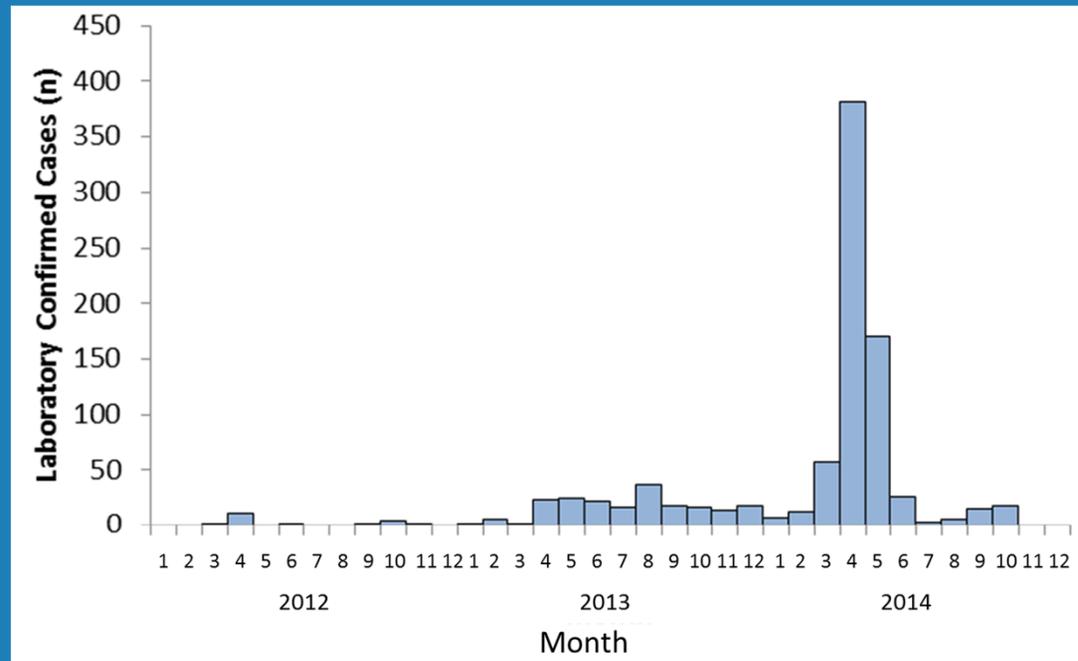
Country reporting	n
Algeria	2
Austria	1
Egypt	1
France	2
Germany	2
Greece	1
Iran	5
Italy	1
Jordan	1
	1
Kuwait	3
Lebanon	1

Malaysia	1
Netherlands	2
Oman	2
Qatar	9
Saudi Arabia	796
Tunisia	3
Turkey	1
United Arab Emirates	69
United Kingdom	4
United States of America	2
Yemen	1
Total	920

Total deaths: at least 331



Weekly Incidence of MERS-CoV Cases



Transmission of MERS-CoV

- Person-to-person transmission well documented
- 29 spatiotemporal clusters reported Household and healthcare settings
- Median incubation period just over 5 days, range (2-14 days)
- Routes of transmission unknown
- No clear evidence of sustained community transmission



Event Based Surveillance For MERS-CoV: Data Collection

- Three Nosocomial outbreaks on-going in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia – 2 in Taif and 1 in Riyadh
- Investigations on going
- One exported case from KSA to Turkey, two to Qatar and one suspected to Austria
- Many of suspected Hajj pilgrims testing –ve for MERS



Assessment - 1

- Overall, the epidemiology of MERS-CoV remains unchanged
- There remains no evidence of sustained human-to-human transmission in the community nor is there evidence of airborne transmission under general circumstances
- Therefore, the overall transmission patterns previously observed remain unchanged



Assessment - 2

WHO bases this assessment on the evidence that:

- The clinical picture appears to be similar to what was observed previously; secondary cases tend to present with a milder disease than primary cases, and many of the recently reported secondary cases have been mild;
- The recently exported cases to Algeria, Greece, Lebanon, Iran, Malaysia, the Netherlands, the Philippines, and USA *have **not** resulted in sustained onward transmission to persons in close contact on airplanes or in their respective countries;*
- Intensive screening of MERS-CoV contacts revealed very few instances of household transmission; and
- There has been no increase in the size or number of observed household clusters.

