



February 16, 2015



DAILY SITUATIONAL AWARENESS BRIEF



Marion County Medical Multi-Agency Coordination Center

NATIONAL TERRORISM ADVISORY SYSTEM

No active alerts



49°

Mostly sunny, with a high near 49. South wind around 5 mph.

Mostly Sunny



39°

Mostly cloudy, with a low around 39. South southeast wind 3 to 5 mph.

Mostly Cloudy



ASTHMA INDEX

0



UV INDEX

4

## THREAT ANALYSIS

### CDC issues an alert recommending continued vigilance for MERS

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently issued a MERS-CoV advisory to warn healthcare workers to watch for signs of MERS infection in patients that have recently traveled to or near the Arabian Peninsula. Travelers to that region are advised to protect themselves from MERS by frequent hand washing and avoiding contact with persons who are ill. (Sources: [US News and World Report](#), [CDC](#))

Since MERS was first reported in humans in 2012, at least 975 people have been infected with the illness and 358 have died. The United States had two confirmed cases last May, unrelated cases involving healthcare workers from Florida and Indiana who had recently visited Saudi Arabia. Twelve other countries have also reported travel-associated MERS cases. (Sources: [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), [CDC](#))

The WHO reports that inadequate hospital infection control measures may be responsible for continuing transmission in some situations. Hospital-associated case clusters among healthcare workers and patients have been identified in three cities in Saudi Arabia and one hospital in Iran. As such, the WHO is recommending investigations of how MERS is transmitted in healthcare settings. (Source: [Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, WHO](#))

## ACTION STEPS

1

Consider a MERS diagnosis in patients that develop fever and respiratory symptoms within 14 days of travel to the following countries: Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Jordan, Oman, Kuwait, Yemen, Lebanon, and Iran. (Source: [CDC](#))

2

If you suspect a potential MERS case, immediately notify infection control and local health departments. (Source: [CDC](#))

3

Monitor [MERS alerts from WHO](#) to keep up to date on the global epidemic, including whether it becomes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY

16

No Mass Gatherings Scheduled

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