



Orange County

**ATTENTION**

STEVEN M. NEUHAUS  
County Executive

## **PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE**

ELI N. AVILA, MD, JD, MPH  
Commissioner of Health

May 7, 2014

---

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO PEDIATRIC, FAMILY PRACTICE, PRIMARY CARE, EMERGENCY ROOM, INTERNAL MEDICINE, INFECTIOUS DISEASE, OB/GYN AND AMBULATORY CARE STAFF.**

### **PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT # 2**

#### **Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV)**

Health care professionals should evaluate patients for MERS-CoV infection if they develop fever and symptoms of respiratory illness, such as cough or shortness of breath within 14 days after traveling from countries in or near the Arabian Peninsula (Arabian Peninsula, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen). They should also evaluate patients for MERS-CoV infection if they have had a close contact with a symptomatic recent traveler from this area who has fever and acute respiratory illness.

Healthcare professionals should carefully monitor for the appearance of fever and respiratory symptoms in any person who has had close contact with a confirmed case, probable case or a patient under investigation (PUI). This information can be found at the following site:

<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/case-def.html>

Background information can be obtained by going to: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/index.html>

For recommendations and additional information, including criteria for patients under investigation (PUI) go to the following: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirs/mers/interim-guidance.html>

Additional information on home care and isolation guidance is available at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/hcp/home-care.html>

Recommendations for Hospitalized Patients with MERS-CoV can be found by going to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/infection-prevention-control.html>