

# Tout savoir sur le nouveau coronavirus du MERS (MERS-CoV)

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POUR LA RECHERCHE, POUR LA SANTÉ, **POUR DEMAIN** 



## First reported case of infection by a new coronavirus



Published Date: 2012-09-20 15:51:26 Subject: PRO/EDR> Novel coronavirus - Saudi Arabia: human isolate Archive Number: 20120920.1302733

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS - SAUDI ARABIA: HUMAN ISOLATE

A ProMED-mail post http://www.promedmail.org ProMED-mail is a program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases http://www.isid.org

Date: Sat 15 Sep 2012 From: Ali Mohamed Zaki <azaki53@hotmail.com> [edited]

A new human coronavirus was isolated from a patient with pneumonia by Dr Ali Mohamed Zaki at the Virology Laboratory of Dr Soliman Fakeeh Hospital Jeddah Saudi Arabia.

The virus was isolated from sputum of a male patient aged 60 years old presenting with pneumonia associated with acute renal failure. The virus grows readily on Vero cells and LLC-MK2 cells producing CPE in the form of rounding and syncetia formation.

[The clinical isolate] was initially tested for influenza virus A, influenza virus B, parainfluenza virus, enterovirus and adenovirus, with negative results. Testing with a pancoronavirus RT-PCR yielded a band at a molecular weight appropriate for a coronavirus. The virus RNA was tested also in Dr. Ron Fouchier's laboratory in the Netherlands and was confirmed to be a new member of the beta group of corononaviruses, closely related to bat coronaviruses. Further analysis is being carried out in the Netherlands.

The Virology Laboratory at the Dr Fakeeh Hospital will be happy to collaborate with others in studies of this virus.

Ali Mohamed Zaki Professor of Microbiology Dr Fakeeh hospital Jeddah Saudi Arabia <azaki53@hotmail.com>

[ProMED-mail welcomes the opportunity to communicate Dr Ali Mohamed Zaki's invitation.



### Countries affected by the MERS-CoV since April 2012



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/1c/BlankMap-World8.svgz



## Geographic epicentre of MERS cases



Interhuman transmissibility of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus: estimation of pandemic risk - *Romulus Breban, Julien Riou, Arnaud Fontanet, The Lancet, 2013* 



## Time line of MERS cases

Number of confirmed cases: **130** (in 9 countries) Nombre of deaths: **58** (24/09/2013)



http://www.uq.edu.au/vdu/VDUMERSCoronavirus.htm



Timeline of epidemiological features of two cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infection and exposure and follow-up period of their contacts (n=162), France, April–May 2013



Mailles A, Blanckaert K, Chaud P, van der Werf S, Lina B, Caro V, Campese C, Guéry B, Prouvost H, Lemaire X, Paty MC, Haeghebaert S, Antoine D, Ettahar N, Noel H, Behillil S, Hendricx S, Manuguerra JC, Enouf V, La Ruche G, Semaille C, Coignard B, Lévy-Bruhl D, Weber F, Saura C, Che D, The investigation team. First cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infections in France, investigations and implications for the prevention of human-to-human transmission, France, May 2013. Euro Surveill. 2013;18(24):pii=20502.



# Monitoring of suspected cases of infection by the MERS-CoV in France (source InVS)

	TOTAL							TOTAL	TOTAL
Date point Invs	Nombre de signalements	Nombre de cas analysés	Nombre de cas négatifs	En cours d'analyse	Nombre de cas positifs	Nombre de décès	Nombre de cas analysés CIBU	Dates d'analyse CIBU	Nombre de cas analysés CNR (s) et autres*
					0	0	1	06/11/2012	
14/12/2012	6	6	6	0	0	0	1		5
20/02/2013	7	7	7	0	0	0	1		6
13/05/2013	53			0	2	1	4	11 et 12/05/2013	
17/05/2013	83			0	2	1	6	17/05/2013	
28/05/2013	134			0	2	1	13	18,19,23,25,26/05/2013	
05/06/2013	155	42	40	0	2	1	14	1 et 2/06/2013	28
11/06/2013	173	49	47	0	2	1	16	08/06/2013	33
19/06/2013	194	51	48	1	2	1	16		36
25/06/2013	205	56	51	3	2	1	17	22/06/2013	39
02/07/2013	215	57	55	0	2	1	17		40
09/07/2013	221	58	56	0	2	1	17		41
16/07/2013	228	59	57	0	2	1	17		42
23/07/2013	232	59	57	0	2	1	17		42
30/07/2013	237	59	57	0	2	1	17		42
06/08/2013	237	59	57	0	2	1	18	10/08/2013	41
13/08/2013	243	61	59	0	2	1	19	16/08/2013	42
20/08/2013	253	64	61	0	2	1	19		45
27/08/2013	260	64	62	0	2	1	19		45
03/09/2013	267	68	66	0	2	1	19		49
10/09/2013	271	70	68	0	2	1	19		51
17/09/2013	278	72	70	0	2	1	19		53
24/09/2013	280	73	70	1	2	1	19		54



# Comparison of epidemiological and clinical features of SARS-CoV with MERS infection

Comparison of epidemiological and clinical features of SARS-CoV with MERS-CoV infection

			MERS-CoV				
	China	Canada	China	China	Singapore	KSA	Else-
	(Hong	(Toronto)	(Beijing)	(Taiwan)			where*
	Kong)						
Median age (years)	NR	45	35	45	21	58	
Percentage male	44%	39%	56%	48%	32%	74%	
Percentage with co-	20%	28%	4%	30%	NR	95%	-
morbidity							
Percentage with		11%			NR	52%	-
diabetes mellitus							
Symptoms at							
presentation	100%	99%	100%		100%	83%	-
Fever	57%	69%	43%		39%	87%	-
Cough	-	42%	-		13%	42%	-
Shortness of breath	20%	23%	7%		7%	22%	-
Diarrhoea	20%	19%	15%		11%	17%	-
Nausea/vomiting					-	32%	-
Gastrointestinal							
symptoms							
Chest X-ray at							
presentation					9%		
Normal					61%		
Unilateral infiltrate					30%		
Bilateral/multifocal							
infiltrate							
Percentage of cases	23%	77%	16%	18%	42%	6.7%	5%
occurring in healthcare							
workers							
Percentage of cases	6.8%	2%	6.3%	7.7%		50%	7%
that are healthcare-							
acquired in hospital							
patients							
Case fatality rate							
Overall	17%	6.5%	3.3%	28%	12%	60%	40%
In 51-60 year olds	18%	-	12%	42%		-	-
In 60+ year olds	55%	-	25%	49%		-	-
In persons with co-	46%	-	14%	40%		-	-
morbidity							-
In patients with	53%	-	0	70%		-	-
healthcare							
-acquired disease							
Incubation period	4.6 d	ays (95% with	onset by 12.	.9 days)		5.2 days	NA
						(12.4 days)	
Serial interval		8.4	days		7.6 days	NA	
Mean number of		7 (Sing	gapore)		1.5	1.0 (8/8)	
secondary		2.2-3.6 (r	modelled)		(outbreak)		
symptomatic cases per					0.4 (3/9)		
index case before					(sporadic)		
control measures							

Household attack rate	Canada, Toronto: 10.2% (6.7-23.5%) Viet Nam: 4.2%, 95% Cl 1.5-7 China, Hong Kong: 8% (11% early - 5% late) China, Hong Kong: 7.2%		11% (4/36)	5% (1/20)
Duration of infectiousness	<ul> <li>Not infectious before onset of symptoms</li> <li>Transmission greater later during severe illness</li> <li>Viral shedding increases to day 9-12 of illness</li> </ul>	-	<ul> <li>No case with evidence of transmission onset of syn index case</li> <li>Most transin day 1-5 of in index case</li> </ul>	th f m before mptoms in mission on llness in

Source:

WHO/KSA joint mission in Saudi Arabia report, June 2013



## Epidemiological features: is MERS epidemic as yet?

## 

- 0.60 (95% CI 0.42-0.80) for scenario 1
- 0.69 (0.50–0.92) for scenario 2.

### R<sub>0</sub> of for prepandemic SARS

- 0.80 (0.54–1.13)

Interhuman transmissibility of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus: estimation of pandemic risk *Romulus Breban, Julien Riou, Arnaud Fontanet, The Lancet, 2013* 



Coronavirinae unrooted phylogeny depicting the 4 genera formally named Alpha-, Beta- (from a to c), Gamma-, and Deltacoronavirus (previously respectively referred as group 1, 2, 3).

Adapted from J.F.W Chan et al., Journal of infection 2012.





# Molecular diagnostic of MERS-CoV

#### RT-PCR target regions for screening, confirmation and sequencing of novel human coronavirus (hCoV-EMC)



N: nucleocapsid; Orf: open reading frame; RdRp: RNA-dependent RNA polymerase; RT-PCR: reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction.

The figure shows the relative positions of amplicon targets presented in this study, as well as in [2]. Primers are represented by arrows, probes as blue bars. Numbers below amplicon symbols are genome positions according to the hCoV-EMC/2012 prototype genome presented in [1].

The 1A assay is the confirmatory real-time RT-PCR test presented in this study (target in the ORF1a gene). The RdRpSeq assay is a hemi-nested sequencing amplicon presented in this study (target in the RdRp gene). The ORF1b assay is a confirmatory real-time RT-PCR presented in [2]. The upE assay is a real-time RT-PCR assay recommended for first-line screening as presented in [2] (target upstrem of E gene). The NSeq assay is a hemi-nested sequencing amplicon presented in this study (target in this study (target in N gene).

Corman VM, Müller MA, Costabel U, Timm J, Binger T, Meyer B, Kreher P, Lattwein E, Eschbach-Bludau M, Nitsche A, Bleicker T, Landt O, Schweiger B, Drexler JF, Osterhaus AD, Haagmans BL, Dittmer U, Bonin F, Wolff T, Drosten C. Assays for laboratory confirmation of novel human coronavirus (hCoV-EMC) infections. Euro Surveill. 2012;17(49):pii=20334

# Testing algorithm for cases under investigation for MERS CoV infection





# Suspected cases received in IP Paris for molecular diagnosis

### Patient 1 samples (Received / processed in French NIC 7 & 8/05/2013)

- Quality controls validated (no inhibition / degradation)
- BAL obtained on April 26 (because of sample transportation issues), received on May 7, and was shown to be positive by RT-PCR for both the upE and Orf1a targets with cycle threshold (Ct) values of 22.9 for upE and 24 for Orf1a.
- Parallel retesting of the April 30 nasopharyngeal swab resulted in Ct values of 37.2 for upE and 40 for Orf1a.
- A sputum sample obtained on May 7 was strongly positive (Ct <29) by RT-PCR for both targets.

### Patient 2 samples (Received / processed in CIBU 11/05/2013)

upE		ORF1a		ORF1b		GAPDH		Sigma	
pure	1/5	pure	1/5	pure	1/5	pure	1/5	pure	1/5
22,5	24,7	23,85	26,58	25,61	27,54	22,51	22,69	29,62	28,64
douteux	douteux	neg	38	31,08	neg	27,55	neg	28,73	28,05
T+ 1e3 copies		voies C4 Te	1et copies -	- CS T. Nicostif eau				For a IQC0 @	1/1000
130568 pur	- CB 13568 au	1.5 - CR 13	80569 pur -	- C10: 130569 au 1/5	5			29,04	
	u pure 22,5 douteux T+ 1e3 copies 130558 pur	upE pure 1/5 22,5 24,7 douteux douteux T+ 1e3 copies C3 T+ 1e2 co 130555 pur C8 13555 eu	upE         OR           pure         1/5         pure           22,5         24,7         23,85           douteux         douteux         rwww         neg           T+ 1x3 copies         C3: T+ 1x2 copies         C4: T+ 1x3 copies           130589 pur         C6: 13586 au 1/5         C9: 13586 au 1/5	upE         ORF1a           pure         1/5         pure         1/5           22,5         24,7         23,85         26,58           douteux         douteux         neg         38           T+ 1e3 copies         - C3: T+ 1e2 copies         - C4: T+ 1e1 copies         130566 pur           130566 pur         - C8: 13566 au 1.5         - C9: 130569 pur         -	upE         ORF1a         ORF1           pure         1/5         pure         1/5         pure           22,5         24,7         23,85         26,58         25,61           douteux         douteux         neg         38         31,08           T+ 1s3 copies	upE         ORF1a         ORF1b           pure         1/5         pure         1/5         pure         1/5           22,5         24,7         23,85         26,58         25,61         27,54           douteux         douteux         neg         38         31,08         neg           T+1s3 copies	upE         ORF1a         ORF1b         GAP           pure         1/5         pure         1/5         pure         1/5         pure           22,5         24,7         23,85         26,58         25,61         27,54         22,51           douteux         douteux         neg         38         31,08         neg         27,55           120589 pur	upE         ORF1a         ORF1b         GAPDH           pure         1/5         pure         1/5         pure         1/5         pure         1/5           22,5         24,7         23,85         26,58         25,61         27,54         22,51         22,69           douteux         douteux         neg         38         31,08         neg         27,55         neg           T+1e3 copies	upE         ORF1a         ORF1b         GAPDH         Sig           pure         1/5         pure         1/5



- ✓ Amplification curves for Orf1a target
- $\checkmark$  Patient 2 Induced sputum (ct = 23.9)

✓ Equivalent to 1.E<sup>8</sup> copies / mL



## MERS-CoV Ultrastructure – MET (isolate from patient 2)





## Seqencing of the French samples

### Sanger sequencing

Complete major genome to be obtained directly from samples

Patient 1 : from BAL

Patient 2 : from Sputum

Complete major genome to be obtained from isolates

Patient 1 : from Vero E6 culture

Patient 2 : from Vero E6 culture

### High throughput sequencing

Complete major genome and variants to be obtained directly from samples

Patient 1 : from BAL

Patient 2 : from Sputum



## HTS sequencing of sample taken from patient 1

- Assembly of quality-filtered sequences
- Best-fit mapping of best-matching assembled contigs on genome (Cov-EMC 2012 – ACC JX869059)



- Mapping of quality-filtered sequences on reference genome (Cov-EMC 2012 – ACC JX869059)
- Generation of consensus sequence (majority vote)
- Mapping of consensus onto reference 99.7564 % ID for matching segments



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# Sequence coverage by HTS





# Phylogenetic tree on about 99% of the whole genome combining Sanger and HTS (patient 1)





# Transmission and evolution of the Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus in Saudi Arabia: a descriptive genomic study



Matthew Cotten et al, The Lancet 2013

MERS-CoV=Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus. ORF=open reading frame. Transmission and evolution of the Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus in Saudi Arabia: a descriptive genomic study



### **Geographical distribution of genotypes**

- MERS-CoV genotypes (coloured circles with genome names) are shown near the site of probable infection (white-filled circles).
- The 19 Al-Hasa sequences are shown by a single blue-filled circle.
- The genetically related genotypes from distinct locations (Bisha\_1\_2012, Riyadh\_1\_2012 and Riyadh\_3\_2013, England\_Qatar\_2012, Munich\_AbuDhabi\_2013) are linked with blue lines.



Matthew Cotten et al, The Lancet 2013

# Transmission and evolution of the Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus in Saudi Arabia: a descriptive genomic study



# Time-resolved phylogenetic tree

- ✓ Based on the concatenated coding regions of the MERS-CoV genome. Branch colours show the most probable geographical location for that branch, established with a discrete traits model implemented in BEAST version 1.7.5.20
- ✓ Change in branch colour shows a change in geographical location during its evolutionary history. Node labels show the posterior probability for the inferred geographical location at that node.
- ✓ Asterisks show nodes with >0.95 posterior probability support for that clade.
- The posterior probabilities on the geographical location of the root are Al-Hofuf 0.03, Riyadh 0.48, Buraidah 0.04, Bisha 0.18, Abu Dhabi 0.05, Doha 0.13, Hafr-Al-Batin 0.04, and Makkah 0.04.



Matthew Cotten et al, The Lancet 2013

# Estimation of the introduction of MERS-CoV in humans



#### Bayesian phylogeny based on the whole coding sequence

# Structural comparison between MERS-CoV RBD and SARS-CoV RBD



Domain structures of MERS-CoV S1 (A) and of SARS-CoV S1 (B).

• (C) Structure of MERS-CoV RBD. The receptor-binding subdomain is colored in purple and the core subdomain is colored in cyan.

• (D) Structure of SARS-CoV RBD (PDB code 2AJF). The receptorbinding subdomain is coloured in purple and the core subdomain is coloured in wheat.

• (E) Schematic illustration of MERS-CoV RBD topology. B strands are drawn as arrows and α helices are drawn as cylinders. The disulfide bonds are drawn as yellow sticks.

• (F) Schematic illustration of SARS-CoV RBD topology. β strands are drawn as arrows and α helices are drawn as cylinders. The disulfide bonds are drawn as yellow sticks.

Wang, N. et al., 2013. Structure of MERS-CoV spike receptor-binding domain complexed with human receptor DPP4. Cell Research, 23(8), pp.986–993.

# Human coronavirus EMC does not require the SARS-coronavirus receptor



Institut Pasteur

# Structure of MERS-CoV spike receptor-binding domain complexed with human receptor DPP4



Overall structure of the complex

**• DPP4** extracellular domain consists of N-terminal eight-bladed β-propeller domain (green) and C-terminal  $\alpha/\beta$ -hydrolase domain (orange).

• MERS-CoV RBD contains a core (cyan) and a receptor-binding subdomain (purple). The disulfide bonds are drawn as yellow sticks and the N-linked glycans are drawn as pink sticks.

Wang, N. et al., 2013. Structure of MERS-CoV spike receptor-binding domain complexed with human receptor DPP4. Cell Research, 23(8), pp.986–993.

# Clinical relevance of disease ecology. Integrative perspective and « One Health » strategy



Time (days)

A) Transmission and amplification of viral infection in human (outbreak peak in red) after a virus crosses barrier species from wildlife to livestock (in green) that amplifies the capacity for the virus transmission to people.

*B)* Early detection and control efforts reduce disease incidence in Human (light blue) and animals.

Clinical relevance of disease ecology. Integrative perspective and « One Health » strategy (Karesh et al., Lancet 2012)



# Human Betacoronavirus 2c EMC/2012–related Viruses in Bats, Ghana and Europe



### •RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) gene and Spike gene phylogenies including the novel betacoronaviruses from bats in Ghana and Europe.

A) Bayesian phylogeny of an **816-nt RdRp gene** sequence fragment corresponding to positions 14781–15596 in severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV) strain Frankfurt 1 (GenBank accession no. AY291315).

B) Phylogeny of the **complete Spike gene of clade 2c CoVs** determined by using the neighbour-joining method with an amino acid percentage distance substitution model and the complete deletion option in MEGA5 (www.megasoftware.net).

C) Phylogeny of the **partial Spike gene of clade 2c CoVs, including the novel CoVs of** *Pipistrellus* bats from Europe, Scale bar represents percentage nucleotide distance. The analysis comprised 131 nt corresponding to positions 25378–25517 in hCoV-EMC/2012.

Human Betacoronavirus 2c EMC/2012–related Viruses in Bats, Ghana and Europe, EID 2013 - Augustina Annan et al

Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus neutralising serum antibodies in domestics species: a comparative serological study



• Fluorescent intensities per antigen at a serum dilution of 1/20. Black lines indicate median. Dashed line is cutoff of the assay. RFU=relative fluorescence units.

SARS-CoV=severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus. HCoV=human coronavirus. MERS-CoV=Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus.



Chantal B E M Reusken et al, The Lancet 2013

## Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus neutralising serum antibodies in dromedary camels: a comparative serological study

	Number of serum samples	Positive MERS-CoV neutralisation titre (n; %)	Titre range
Spanish samples (no geographic link)	)		
MERS-CoV antigen array signal (RFU)			
<10000	31	0 (0%)	
10 000-20 000	3	0 (0%)	
20 000-30 000	3	0 (0%)	
30 000-40 000	0	0 (0%)	
>40000	12	9 (75%)	1/20 to 1/320
Human coronavirus OC43 antigen array	signal (RFU)		
<10000	26	1(4%)	
10 000-20 000	8	3 (38%)	
20000-30000	5	2 (40%)	
30 000-40 000	6	3 (50%)	
>40 000	4	0 (0%)	
Omani camel samples (geographic lin	k)		
MERS-CoV antigen array signal (RFU)			
0-40 000	0	0 (0%)	
>40 000	50	50 (100%)	1/320 to 1/2560
Human coronavirus OC43 antigen array	signal (RFU)		
<10 000	3	3 (100%)	
10 000-20 000	4	4 (100%)	
20000-30000	4	4 (100%)	
30 000-40 000	5	5 (100%)	
>40 000	34	34 (100%)	

RFU=relative fluorescence units. MERS-CoV=Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus.

Table 1: Results of neutralising assay for MERS-CoV from Spanish and Omani camel serum samples

	PRNT*	PRNT†	Microarray (RFU)			
	MERS-CoV	BCoV	MERS-CoV antigen	HCoV OC43 antigen		
Camel						
1	Negative	>1/640	7848	51147		
2	Negative	1/320	23235	8164		
3	Negative	1/160	1273	20064		
4	Negative	>1/640	3725	37972		
5	Negative	>1/640	6493	61046		
6	Negative	1/160	1321	63015		
7	Negative	1/640	62748	62 837		
8	Negative	1/40	18 421	2376		
9	1/80	1/160	62775	6554		
10	1/40	1/80	59729	9726		
11	1/40	1/160	63 433	29333		
12	1/40	1/640	63 377	31207		
13	Negative	1/160	13806	5483		
14	1/160	1/>640	63438	19775		
15	1/160	1/320	63 402	12 029		
Human						
MERS-CoV	1/640	1/80	64353	63437		
HCoV-OC43 (13 DPI)	Negative	1/80	2848	>55000		
HCoV-OC43 (10 DPI)	Negative	1/<40	2826	>55000		

PRNT=plaque reduction neutralisation test. MERS- CoV=Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus. BCoV=bovine coronavirus. HCoV=human coronavirus. DPI=days post-infection. RFU=relative fluorescence units. \*Titration range 1/40 to 1/1280. †Titration range 1/40 to 1/640.

Table 2: Protein microarray and PRNT results from sera from 15 Spanish dromedary camels and three people



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### Plateforme de génotypage et caractérisation des pathogènes Valérie Caro

Jean-Michel Thiberge, Mathias Vandenbogaert, Laure Liaucourt ...











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