

## ***Middle East Respiratory Syndrome MERS\_CoV -- Patient Under Investigation (PUI)***

A patient under investigation (PUI) is a person with the following characteristics: fever ( $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ ) and pneumonia or acute respiratory distress syndrome (based on clinical or radiological evidence);

### **AND EITHER**

history of travel from countries in or near the Arabian Peninsula within 14 days before symptom onset;

### **OR**

close contact with a symptomatic traveler who developed fever and acute respiratory illness (not necessarily pneumonia) within 14 days after traveling from countries in or near the Arabian Peninsula;

### **OR**

is a member of a cluster of patients with severe acute respiratory illness (e.g. fever and pneumonia requiring hospitalization) of unknown etiology in which MERS-CoV is being evaluated, in consultation with state and local health departments.

## ***Case Classifications:***

- **Confirmed Case**

A confirmed case is a person with laboratory confirmation of MERS-CoV infection.

- **Probable Case**

A probable case is a PUI with absent or inconclusive laboratory results for MERS-CoV infection who is a close contact of a laboratory-confirmed MERS-CoV case.

## **Footnotes**

- 1 . Countries considered in or near the Arabian Peninsula : Bahrain, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Yemen.
- 2 . Close contact is defined as **a)** any person who provided care for the patient, including a healthcare worker or family member, or had similarly close physical contact; or **b)** any person who stayed at the same place (e.g ., lived with, visited) as the patient while the patient was ill.
- 3 . Confirmatory laboratory testing requires a positive PCR on at least two specific genomic targets or a single positive target with sequencing on a second.
- 4 . Examples of laboratory results that may be considered inconclusive include a positive test on a single PCR target, a positive test with an assay that has limited performance data available, or a negative test on an inadequate specimen.

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