



---

<b>To:</b>	General Practices, Pharmacists, After-Hours Centres, Hospitals and Emergency Departments in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions
<b>From:</b>	Dr Annette Nesdale, Medical Officer of Health
<b>Date:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2015
<b>Title:</b>	<b>MERS-CoV – Updated Advice from the Ministry of Health</b>

**Please distribute the following information to relevant staff in your organisation.**

If you would like to receive this by email please advise RPH of your email on [rph@huttvalleydhb.org.nz](mailto:rph@huttvalleydhb.org.nz)

All public health alerts are available at [www.rph.org.nz](http://www.rph.org.nz) (health professionals – public health alerts)

---

## MERS-CoV – Updated Health Professional Advice

Following the World Health Organization (WHO) meeting of its Emergency Advisory Committee to discuss MERS-CoV and the outbreak in South Korea, the Ministry of Health has developed updated information for Health Professionals.

This document is available at: <http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/middle-east-respiratory-syndrome-coronavirus-mers-cov>

### ADVISORY SUMMARY:

On 16 June 2015, the World Health Organization (WHO) convened a meeting of its Emergency Advisory Committee to discuss MERS-CoV and the outbreak in South Korea. The Committee concluded that the conditions for a Public Health Emergency of International Concern under the International Health Regulations (2005) have **not** been met.

The Committee noted that there is no current evidence of sustained community transmission. Transmission of MERS-CoV in the ongoing outbreak in South Korea has been strongly associated with healthcare settings. This aspect stresses the need for effective infection prevention and control measures to be in place at all times.

The WHO does not recommend the application of any travel or trade restrictions and considers screening at points of entry to be unnecessary at this time. The WHO advises that raising awareness about MERS and its symptoms among those travelling to and from affected areas is good public health practice, as well as raising awareness about the disease among health professionals.

---

The information contained in this message is legally privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that use, dissemination, distribution or reproduction of this message is prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately. Thank you.

He ture no nga korero katoa kei roto o tenei karere, no reira, kia tupato. Mehemea kaore matau kua e mau. Me whakamohiotia atu ki to Tari, me te mea nana I tonono mai. E Tika Hoki.

---