

# MIDDLE EAST RESPIRATORY SYNDROME CORONAVIRUS (MERS-CoV)

## INFORMATION FOR TRAVELLERS

**KEEP THIS CARD**

Coronaviruses are a group of viruses that are known to cause serious illness, such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). MERS-CoV was first identified in the Middle East.

**If you have recently returned from an area affected by MERS-CoV, you should:**

- See your doctor immediately if you feel unwell and develop some or all of the symptoms, especially if you have a weakened immune system. Tell your doctor you have travelled.
- Talk to a Biosecurity Officer at your port of arrival if you feel unwell when you arrive in Australia.
- Keep this card for up to 14 days after you have left the MERS-CoV affected area as symptoms may take this long to develop.

Symptoms of MERS-CoV are:



**FEVER**



**COUGH**



**BREATHING DIFFICULTIES**



**DIARRHOEA**

For more information check the Australian Government website

[www.health.gov.au/MERS-coronavirus](http://www.health.gov.au/MERS-coronavirus)

**IF YOU ARE TRAVELLING  
TO, OR LIVE IN, AN  
AREA OVERSEAS  
THAT IS AFFECTED BY  
MERS-CoV, YOU SHOULD:**



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health**

**PROTECT YOURSELF**

- Avoid close contact with sick people and sick animals.
- When visiting a farm or market where there may be camels, wash your hands often with soap and water or use a hand sanitiser after any contact with camels.
- Avoid raw camel milk, undercooked camel meat and anything contaminated with camel secretions.
- Keep up-to-date with all routine vaccinations.

**STOP THE SPREAD**

- If you are sick, avoid contact with other people.
- Wash hands regularly with soap and water or use hand sanitiser.

**SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE**

- If you develop symptoms of MERS-CoV infection, seek medical advice.

**KEEP INFORMED**

Check [www.health.gov.au/MERS-coronavirus](http://www.health.gov.au/MERS-coronavirus) for regular updates.