In this bulletin:

MERS-CoV Update: expanded cluster in South Korea

Dear colleagues,

In follow-up to our bulletin yesterday, please note that four additional confirmed cases of MERS-CoV have since been reported by the Republic of Korea on May 29, 2015 (i.e. 11 laboratory-confirmed cases in total), including an additional healthcare worker and three other patients on the same ward as the index.

Furthermore, the suspect case notified to you <u>yesterday</u> as under investigation in China (with links to the South Korean cluster) has now also been laboratory-confirmed.

This expanded cluster, originating with a single importation followed by indigenous close contact spread and notable nosocomial amplification, underscores the importance of heightened clinician awareness, prompt and thorough infection control and other emerging pathogen response measures, <u>outlined</u> <u>previously</u>. In particular, facilities should be mindful of the protection of other patients and visitors, in addition to healthcare workers, to minimize nosocomial transmission and risk.

Best wishes, Danuta Skowronski MD, FRCPC Epidemiology Lead, Influenza & Emerging Respiratory Pathogens BC Centre for Disease Control