Overview of the Novel Coronavirus
Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS)

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The New Human Corona Virus:

- The new virus is a Beta Coronavirus and it is different from other coronaviruses that have affected people previously. To date, the WHO has been notified of 40 confirmed infections with the virus, which has been recently named MERS, for Middle Eastern respiratory syndrome coronavirus.

- Symptoms of the infected person are: Pneumonia (has been the most common clinical presentation), severe acute respiratory illness, shortness of breath, cough and fever (≥ 38 °C, 100.4 °F).
Statistics of infected people with the Novel corona virus:

- A total number of 90 persons from Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan, UK, UAE, Tunisia, Italy and France have been infected with coronavirus in the period from April 2012 to July 2013 as following:
  - 70 people in Saudi Arabia (38 of them died)
  - 2 people in Qatar (one died).
  - 2 people in Jordan (both died).
  - 3 people in UK (2 died, one recovered)
  - 6 person in UAE (1 died)
  - 2 people in France (one died).

Source: World health Organization (WHO)
Mode of infection and spread:

- **MODE OF TRANSMISSION:** Infection can be transmitted through inhalation of respiratory droplet aerosols; virus can also be spread via the fecal-oral route, and through fomites.

- The World Health Organization has issued a blunt assessment of the coronavirus outbreak in Saudi Arabia, acknowledging for the first time that there are concerns the virus may be spreading from person to person.

**Potential spread during Ramadan:**

- Ramadan starts in the second week of July this year. And the 2013 Hajj will take place in mid-October, only five months from now. Experts watching the coronavirus situation are already worried about the potential for spread of the new virus, both within Saudi Arabia and internationally.

- Source: Public Health Agency of Canada

(Saudi Arabia has reported its 41st case of the coronavirus. (Beth Fischer/Canadian Press))
Treatment for the novel coronavirus

- Symptomatic treatment is the only available treatment including Antimicrobials, Analgesics and Antipyretics.
- Conservative Fluid management.
- Supplemental oxygen therapy.
- Corticosteroids should be avoided unless they are indicated for another reason.
Prevention of Corona virus infection.

No vaccination available and the duration of infectivity for nCoV infection is unknown, so take strict Precautions to avoid the infection with Corona Virus is important such as:

1- Hand washing and proper hand hygiene.
2- Avoid direct contact with persons suffering from respiratory tract infection.
3- Use medical face mask in crowded areas or if you are visiting a hospital.
4- Proper cleaning and disinfection of work disk and eating tables.
5- Avoid contact with body fluids / secretions of suspected patients.
Thank you