



## MERS-CoV/Avian Influenza Primary Care Algorithm

Algorithm for the assessment and initial management in primary care of returning travellers and visitors from countries\* affected by Middle East Respiratory Syndrome-Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) or avian influenza A (eg H5N1, H7N9, H10N8) presenting with febrile respiratory illness: recognition of a possible case and initial management

\*High-risk areas as defined in PHE algorithms:

<sup>1</sup> MERS-CoV: [PHE MERS-CoV Case Algorithm](#)

[http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb\\_C/1317136270914](http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1317136270914)

<sup>2</sup> Avian influenza H5N1: [PHE H5N1 Case Algorithm](#)

[http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb\\_C/1317133362396](http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1317133362396)

<sup>3</sup> Avian influenza H7N9 or H10N8: [PHE H7N9 Case Algorithm](#)

[http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb\\_C/1317138620910](http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1317138620910)

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**Infection control procedures:** If the patient mentions a febrile respiratory illness on arrival to the primary care facility, standard respiratory precautions are indicated to minimise contact/exposure to staff and other patients

<b>Risk assessment</b>	
For a suspect case patients must fulfil the conditions in <b>both</b> the boxes below:	
	<b>MERS-CoV or avian influenza A (eg H5N1, H7N9, H10N8)</b>
<b>Clinical</b>	A. Fever $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ <b>AND</b> B. Lower respiratory tract symptoms (cough or shortness of breath) or clinical signs of lower respiratory tract infection <b>OR</b> C. Other severe/life-threatening illness suggestive of an infectious process
<b>Exposure</b>	<b>AND</b> History of travel to, or residence in a high-risk area* for MERS-CoV or avian influenza A within two weeks of symptom onset (Note: two weeks has been chosen as the longest period, but for H5N1 the period is seven days, H7N9 10 days and MERS-CoV 14 days)

