At the end of July 2017, a total of 2045 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV), including 733 deaths (case-fatality rate: 35.8%), were reported globally; the majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (1676 laboratory-confirmed cases, including 659 deaths with a case-fatality rate of 39.3%).

During the month of July 2015, 6 laboratory-confirmed cases were reported globally, including one case reported in UAE, with 3 deaths. No healthcare-associated transmission or hospital outbreaks was reported during this month. No new cases were reported from the three simultaneous hospital outbreaks reported from three different hospitals in Riyadh city, Riyadh Region during the months of May and June 2017. The date of reporting of last laboratory-confirmed case from these clusters was 17 June 2017, and the interval period until the end of July 2017 is more than the double of the incubation period for MERS; we can say that these hospital outbreaks are over.

HIGHLIGHTS
- The demographic and epidemiological characteristics of the cases reported in 2017 do not show any significant difference compared with cases reported during the same period from cases reported during the same period from 2012 to 2016. Owing to improved infection prevention and control practices in the hospitals, we can say that these hospital outbreaks are over.
- The age group of those aged 50–59 years continues to be the group at highest risk for acquiring infection as primary cases. For secondary cases, it is the age group of 30–39 years who are mostly at risk. The number of deaths is higher in the age group of 50–59 years for primary cases and 30–39 years for secondary cases.
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MERS cases reported from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by week of symptoms onset, June 2012 - July 2017

HIGHLIGHTS
- At the end of July 2017, a total of 2045 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV), including 733 deaths (case-fatality rate: 35.8%) were reported globally; the majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (1676 laboratory-confirmed cases, including 659 deaths with a case-fatality rate of 39.3%).

Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported in Eastern Mediterranean Region, January 2014-July 2017

Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, June 2012-July 2017

- Type of case
  - Primary
    - Grand Total: 371
  - Secondary
    - Grand Total: 707
  - Source Unknown
  - Total
    - Grand Total: 1676