



Suspected COVID-19 Case Definition

Last Update: 12 March 2020

Suspected COVID-19 case is defined as:

1. **Patient with acute respiratory illness (sudden onset of at least one of the following: fever or recent history of fever, cough or shortness of breath) AND in the 14 days prior to symptom onset, met at least one of the following epidemiological criteria:**

- Had a history of travel abroad or to the identified high-risk area in the kingdom (Qatif region)
- A close physical contact prior to symptom onset with a confirmed COVID-19 case.
- Working in or attended a healthcare facility where patients with confirmed COVID-19 were admitted.

OR

2. **Adult patient with severe acute respiratory illness (ICU admission, ARDS or CURB-65 score ≥ 3 points) AND all the following conditions fulfilled**

- Testing for influenza and MERS-CoV are negative.
- Clinical assessment indicating that the patient is not improving and has no clear underlying causes.
- With or without identified epidemiological link to a confirmed COVID-19 case.

Note:

- If a suspected case is clinically stable, home isolation might be considered only if the house is deemed suitable for isolation (after being assessed by the public health team).
- **Qatif region:** quarantined area, from Saihat district in the south to Safwa in the north