

Press Release

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□ Table 1. Current status of MERS cases in Republic of Korea

Classification of cases	Laboratory-confirmed cases	Discharged	Deaths	Cases Under Treatment
Total	181	81	31**	69***
Number of new cases (June 26)	1*	7	2	-8

* The 181st case was in the Samsung Medical Center (Seoul) between June 11 and June 15, as a doctor who treated the 135th case, and was diagnosed with MERS while being quarantined at home and monitored starting on June 17.

** Age, sex and comorbidity of deaths

- Sex: Male 21 (67.7%), female 10 (32.3%)

- Age above 60 year old: 26 (84%)

Age	Total	30s or younger	40s	50s	60s	70s or above
Number of cases	181	36	29	41	36	39

- Comorbidity: the number of high-risk patients in old age or with underlying medical conditions such as cardio-cerebrovascular disease, cancer and chronic respiratory disease is 29 (93.5%).

*** The states of 69 cases are stable and those of 13 cases unstable.

□ Table 2. Current status of MERS quarantine in Republic of Korea

Status of quarantine	Under Quarantine			Finished
	Sum	Home	Institution	

Total		2,931	2,172	759	12,203
Number of new cases (June 26)		289	294	-5	267

Passage of MERS Bills

-On June 25, the National Assembly passed a package of bills proposed to establish a new system to better respond to the outbreak of infectious diseases.

-The law requires the Minister of Health and Welfare to designate newly emerging infectious diseases as legal infectious diseases as quickly as possible.

-Under the law, field directors and investigators in charge of epidemic prevention and control are expected to have greater authority, and civil servants such as policemen or firefighters are required to cooperate closely with them.

-The central and local governments are required to release, in real time, specific information such as the routes of patients with infectious diseases and the hospitals they stayed at.

-The central and local governments are required to share information for infection prevention and control with medical institutions and associations.

-The government is required to pay compensation to those under quarantine.

Update on Hospitals Under Strict Control

-Quarantines for MERS on Daechung Hospital and Konyang University Hospital were lifted on June 26, after the Immediate Response Team checked the symptoms of individuals inside the hospitals and concluded that they had no symptoms.

-However, the hospitals made their own decision to remain under quarantine until this weekend.

-The total number of Hospitals Under Strict Control freed from quarantine increased to 8.

Support for Bereaved Families

-The government pays them 10 million won per death as funeral expenses, if they follow guidelines to cremate a body.

Update on Infection Control Institutions

-11 hospitals including those with state-designated isolation wards where MERS confirmed cases were cured were added to the list of infection control institutions.

-9 hospitals under strict control with many confirmed cases and quarantined individuals were also designated as infection control institutions.

Update on National Safe Hospitals

-27 hospitals were newly designated as National Safe Hospitals.

-276 National Safe Hospitals include 39 superior general hospitals, 171 general hospitals, and 66 hospitals.

-According to the findings of the investigation into 105 National Safe Hospitals by both the Ministry of Health and Welfare and medical associations, 8 out of the 11 hospitals which failed to meet requirements acted on a request to follow them; and the rest was obligated to act on the request until June 29.