



## MERS-CoV Update

The Obama administration has declared MERS-CoV a significant potential for a public health emergency that may lead to affects on national security or the health and security of US citizens living abroad.

The declaration was dated May 29<sup>th</sup> and signed by Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary for Health and Human Services.

As a result of this designation, the FDA can fast track approval of testing technologies and devices after accepting an “emergency use authorization” (EUA). Currently, there are no specific devices for the testing of MERS-CoV.

The press release can be found here

<http://www.phe.gov/emergency/news/healthactions/phe/Pages/mers-cov.aspx>

There are still no cases identified within the U.S.

EMS agencies are reminded to look out and report patients that fit the case definition for MERS-CoV and practice good protective measures including appropriate PPE and hand washing.

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