



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Clinical Advisory

To: EMTs, Paramedics, Advanced Paramedics, EMCs, Managers
c.c.: NAS Leadership Team
From: Medical Director
Date: September 28th 2012
Subject: **NEW CORONAVIRUS-SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY ILLNESS**

Dear colleagues,

The HSE Health Protection and Surveillance Centre (HPSC) have issued an alert regarding the emergence of a novel coronavirus that has been linked to severe acute respiratory illness. The new virus has been identified in two patients-one subsequently died, the second remains in Intensive Care (neither patient has any Irish connection). Both patients had travelled to either Saudi Arabia or Qatar in the immediate period before developing symptoms.

Patients should be considered as possibly being infected with this virus if they satisfy all three of the following

- febrile illness,
- respiratory symptoms
- recent travel history to Saudi Arabia or Qatar

1. Staff should wear FFP2 or FFP3 masks, gown, gloves and goggles.
2. Receiving EDs should be pre-alerted to the arrival of the patient and NAS staff should seek direction as to what part of the ED the patient should be brought (eg single cubicle or isolation room).
3. The vehicle should be cleaned immediately after clearing the call, in accordance with NAS Policy-Control of Infection and Communicable Diseases-NASP 001

Dr Cathal O'Donnell,
Medical Director.