

Current Event

The National Situation Room (NSR)

The National Situation Room (NSR), Ministry of Health (MOH) produced an annual report for its activities in 2015.

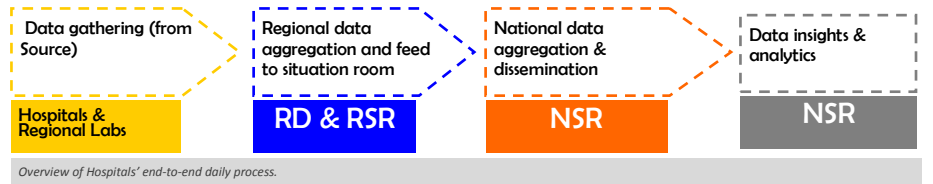
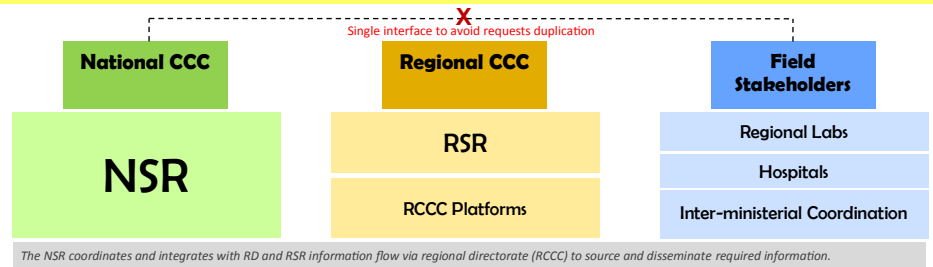
Editorial Notes

NSR plays an important role in MOH, making early alerts and follow-up of specific public health events. In 2014, the NSR was established in the Command and Control Center (CCC). The main objective of its establishment was to monitor MERS outbreaks and help mitigate their impact through a timely combined, coordinated and cohesive incident response. Makkah and Madinah regional situation room have been established and activated by NSR to monitor Hajj-related surveillance activities in 2015.

The NSR monitors transport of biological specimens to central public health laboratories (CPHL) for MERS-CoV testing through an express mail provider (SMSA); and monitors the time taken by the CPHL in testing specimens. The regional public health laboratories continuously update the date and time of receipt, and results of laboratory testings of biological specimens. The laboratory data are interconnected with the MOH Health Electronic Surveillance Network (HESN).

The NSR works around the hour (24/7); and acts as a kingdom-wide single source of truthful information during crises. Hospitals collect data from various departments and send them electronically to the NSR. The NSR produces real-time information on surveillance and readiness data. It manages data from different stakeholders, and generates predefined alerts via dashboards. The output information could be accessed online by the leadership at any time. All alerts

Figure 1: National Situation Room (NSR) Dataflow



RD: Regional Directorate for Health Affairs; RSR: Regional Situation Rooms

Cases of MERS-CoV: International Week (IW) No. 2: 10 - 16 Jan 2016

Total	2
Symptomatic (S)	2
Asymptomatic (AS)	0
Healthcare worker (S)	0
Healthcare Worker (AS)	0

are being considered regardless of the reason (e.g. technical issues). Any delay or deviations from the expected transaction are immediately investigated and corrected. As a result, fewer incidents of delays in shipping and transporting biological specimens were reported (Figure 1).

The NSR also provides accurate data on availability of beds at intensive care units and inventories for selected medical supplies at any point of time. The dashboard in the NSR also gives details on training activities, reviews and results of inspections made by rapid response teams, audit of the infection prevention and control among others. More dashboards are being developed.

Alerts identified in 2015 by the NSR:

Alerts type	#
Bed Capacity	203
Inventory	352
Compliance	323
SMSA	563
Lab performance	412
RRT	413

Recent Publications:

Kim KM, Ki M, Cho SI, Sung M, Hong JK, Cheong HK, Kim JH, Lee SE, Lee C, Lee KJ, Park YS, Kim SW, Choi BY. Epidemiologic features of the first MERS outbreak in Korea: focus on Pycongtaek St. Mary's Hospital. *Epidemiol Health*. 2015 Sep 17;37:e2015041. doi: 10.4178/epih/e2015041. eCollection 2015. PubMed PMID: 26725225; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4652064.

MERS-CoV in KSA 2016*

Region	Case	Primary	Secondary	U.C.
Riyadh	0	0	0	0
Al-Ahsaa	0	0	0	0
Eastern Region	0	0	0	0
Jeddah	0	0	0	0
Qassim	0	0	0	0
Najran	0	0	0	0
Taif	0	0	0	0
Madinah (1)	1	1	0	0
Asir	0	0	0	0
Tabuk	0	0	0	0
Makkah	0	0	0	0
Hail	0	0	0	0
Al-Joaf	0	0	0	0
Jazan	0	0	0	0
Northern Borders	0	0	0	0
Qunfotha	0	0	0	0
Al-Baha	0	0	0	0
Bisha (1)	1	1	0	0
Hafr Al-Batin	0	0	0	0
Qurayyat	0	0	0	0
Total	2	2	0	0

Case: Confirmed Symptomatic. U.C.: Unclassified cases

*Period: Form 3 Jan to 16 Jan 2016

Regions with new cases of this week are highlighted in yellow.