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Respirology

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Emerging respiratory infections threatening public health in the Asia-Pacific region: A position paper of the Asian Pacific Society of

Respirology (Review) [\(Open Access\)](#)Park, S.^a, Park, J.Y.^a, Song, Y.^b, How, S.H.^c, Jung, K.-S.^a [✉](#),
on behalf of the Respiratory Infections Assembly of the APSR [✉](#)^aDivision of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Hallym University Sacred Heart Hospital, Anyang, South Korea^bDepartment of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Zhongshan Hospital, Fudan University, Shanghai, China^cDepartment of Internal Medicine, Kulliyah of Medicine, International Islamic University Malaysia, Kuantan, Malaysia

Abstract

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In past decades, we have seen several epidemics of respiratory infections from newly emerging viruses, most of which originated in animals. These emerging infections, including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV), Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and the pandemic influenza A (H1N1) and avian influenza (AI) viruses, have seriously threatened global health and the economy. In particular, MERS-CoV and AI A (H7N9) are still causing infections in several areas, and some clustering of cases of A (H5N1) and A (H7N9) may imply future possible pandemics. Additionally, given the inappropriate use of antibiotics and international travel, the spread of carbapenem-resistant Gram-negative bacteria is also a significant concern. These infections with epidemic or pandemic potential present a persistent threat to public health and a huge burden on healthcare services in the Asia-Pacific region. Therefore, to enable efficient infection prevention and control, more effective international surveillance and collaboration systems, in the context of the 'One Health' approach, are necessary. © 2019 Asian Pacific Society of Respirology

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