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## No MERS-CoV but prevalence of influenza viruses in returning Hajj pilgrims, China, 2013-2015

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The mass gathering of pilgrims has a high global health risk for the global concern that travelers returning from pilgrimage could contribute to the international spread of MERS-CoV. In China, about 11,000 Muslim pilgrims participate in the Hajj gathering in Mecca annually. This is the first report for MERS-CoV and respiratory virus detection results at points of entry in China from 2013-2015. A total of 847 returning Hajj pilgrims participated in this study. The test results indicated that 34 influenza A, 14 influenza B, 2 Metapneumovirus, 2 respiratory syncytial virus, 3 human coronavirus positive were tested from travelers with fever. The statistical analysis showed there was a significant difference between participants with or without fever. The positive rate of influenza virus was 5.3%, 6.0% and 6.3% among 2013-2015. However, there was no significant difference among three years for respiratory virus positive participants. The MERS-CoV and respiratory viruses detection results at points of entry in China from 2013-2015 indicated there was lack of MERS-CoV infection but the prevalence of influenza viruses in Chinese pilgrims.

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