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## A REVIEW ON CRIMEAN-CONGO HEMORRHAGIC FEVER WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON IRAQI OUTBREAKS

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**ABSTRACT**

*Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever* (CCHF) is a serious viral disease caused by the CCHF Virus. It is primarily transmitted through tick bites or contact with secretions of infected animals or humans. CCHF has a wide geographic distribution, with cases reported in various parts of Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. CCHF is characterized by a range of clinical signs and symptoms, including high fever, headache, muscle and joint pain, gastrointestinal symptoms, and in severe cases, hemorrhagic manifestations. Diagnosis of CCHF involves a combination of clinical evaluation, laboratory testing (serological and molecular), and epidemiological information. Early detection and prompt medical attention are crucial for appropriate management and improving patient outcomes. CCHF has been reported in several regions of Iraq since 1979, and outbreaks were reported between 1989, 2009, 2010, 2018, 2021, and recently 2022 and 2023 outbreaks with exceptional recorded cases. Infection control measures, public health education, and surveillance are critical components of CCHF control efforts, targeting animals and humans. Given a high mortality rate associated with severe cases and the potential for CCHF outbreaks, continued research, international collaboration, and the development of effective vaccines and antiviral treatments are needed to alleviate the impact of CCHF on public health. Overall, CCHF is a significant public health concern that requires a comprehensive One Health approach to control and prevent its spread, safeguarding both human and animal populations. This review article intends to discuss the CCHF in light of the recent multiple reemergence of the disease in Iraq.

**Keywords:** CCHF, Iraq, tick bites, hemorrhagic manifestations, RT-PCR.

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