

## Overview

On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 the World Health Organization convened to assess the health implications of the multi-country outbreak of Monkeypox (MPV) and declared the outbreak a global emergency. Transmission is occurring in several countries that are not endemic to Monkeypox and public health officials are working diligently to contain the current outbreak and learn more about the virus.

The majority of reported MPV cases are currently in males, occurring most among males who identified themselves as gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men. **However, any person, regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation can acquire and spread monkeypox.** Transmission is also occurring in urban areas and in other social and sexual networks. Recent reports have noted that children with no known epidemiological link to confirmed cases have also been affected.

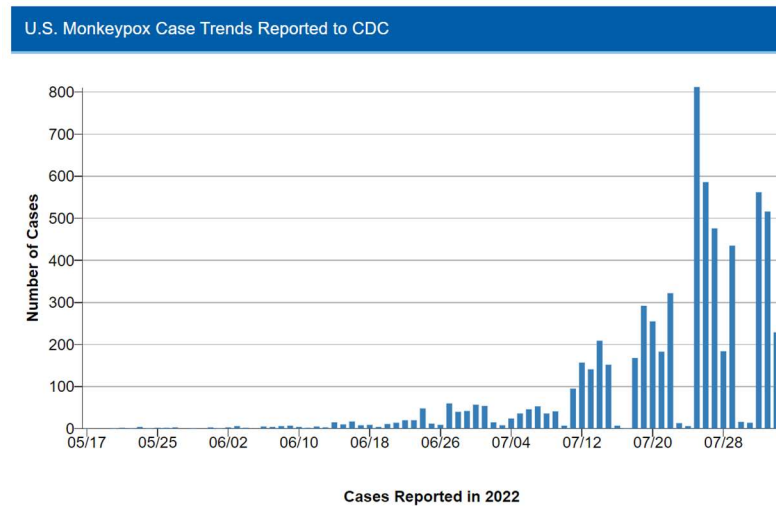
MPV is a rare, but potentially serious, viral illness. Early symptoms in the first few days of transmission include flu-like symptoms, such as fever, chills, malaise, and headaches. These symptoms may progress to the swelling of the lymph nodes and rashes on the face and various parts of the body. Although the fatality rate in the United States is <1%, MPV is still a viral illness that should not be treated lightly. MPV can spread through:

- Direct skin-skin contact with rash lesions; Sexual/intimate contact
- Living in a house and sharing a bed with someone; Sharing towels or unwashed clothes and linens
- Respiratory secretions through prolonged face-to-face interaction where large respiratory droplets are transferred (namely, among those caring for a family member who has MPV)

**MPV does not spread through casual conversations or even walking past a person with MPV.** Although the virus does not spread easily between people, most infections last anywhere from 2 to 4 weeks and can be very burdensome to an infected person. Public health officials note that awareness and active outreach to the general public is an essential part to containing and limiting the spread of this virus due to a lack of immunizations, testing, and treatment options.

### **Data (Updated as of August 8th, 2022)**

- 49 states including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have confirmed, active cases of MPV - 8,934 cases to date
- CDC, August 8th, 2022:



### **As of July 25th, 2022:**

- Age Range of Cases: 18 - 76 years; median age: 35 years\*  
\*Not including pediatric cases
- Case burden by sex (those willing to provide this information)
  - Male sex at birth: 1,383 (99.1%)
  - Female sex at birth: 13
- Sexual/Intimacy-Related Contacts (those willing to provide this information)
  - MMSC (Male-to-male sexual contact): 624/631 (99.0%)
- Of those who provided their race/ethnicity
  - 38% are non-white Hispanic
  - 26% are Black
  - 32% are Hispanic (of any race)
- Most common symptoms
  - Rash (99%)
  - Malaise (70%)
  - Fever (64%)
  - Lymphadenopathy (63%)

## **Case definitions & Isolation/Monitoring Guidelines**

**Cases' Isolation:** Isolate from symptom onset until symptoms subside AND a fresh, new layer of skin has formed and no scabs/lesions remain—may be up to 3-4 weeks. Avoid contact with pets, cover lesions, **do not use contact lenses**, wash your own clothing, use and frequently clean your own bathroom. Use your own mode of transportation and a properly fitting mask if you MUST go to a doctor's appointment. Day 0 is the initial exposure to the case; **each local board of health determines the end of isolation for a known case.**

### **Contact Definitions & Monitoring (NOT Quarantine)**

- **High risk:** Intimate skin on skin contact (includes kissing, hugging, prolonged face-to-face contact); Shared bedding, clothing, or towels; Direct contact to patient or clothing/linens without proper PPE
  - Contacts: PEP via vaccination recommended; monitoring of symptoms for up to 21 days after initial exposure, take temperature twice a day, & may resume normal daily activities as long as they are asymptomatic
- **Intermediate risk:** Being in the patient's room, both unmasked or if HCW is not wearing eye protection for 3+ hours; Spending 3+ hours in the same room as a known case
  - Not currently recommended to receive PEP via vaccination
  - Same monitoring procedures as outlined above
- **Low risk:** sitting in the same room as a known case for < 3 hours; Wearing full PPE around a patient
  - No PEP via vaccination is recommended; may follow monitoring procedures as outlined above

## **Vaccination**

- JYNNEOS is currently the only vaccine that is FDA approved to treat contacts of MPV
  - The efficacy of this vaccine is unknown
  - ACAM2000 may have severe side effects and is not being prioritized at this time for most individuals
  - ACAM2000 is not recommended for those
    - Less than 12 months of age
    - With congenital/acquired deficiency disorders
    - Taking immunosuppressive medications and those living with HIV (regardless of immune status)
    - With eczema (pmhx of eczema) or other skin conditions (or pmhx of other skin conditions)
    - Who are pregnant
    - With cardiac disease
    - Who have eye diseases treated with topical steroids
- Supply is extremely limited, as it is coming from the Strategic National Stockpile
- Biden administration declared Monkeypox a Public Health Emergency
  - Gives federal agencies the power to direct money toward developing and evaluating vaccines and drugs, obtain emergency funding, and hire additional workers to help manage the outbreak
- **Criteria for vaccination**: those who are identified as high risk or are most likely to have had an exposure to MPV
  - Those with a sexual partner in the past 14 days that was diagnosed with Monkeypox
  - Had multiple sexual partners in the past 14 days in a jurisdiction with known Monkeypox
- JYNNEOS vaccination consists of 2 doses (0.5 mL each), 4 weeks apart for adults 18 years and older
- Because of severe shortage, PCPs are only administering one shot as of August 8th, 2022
  - No studies to prove that the one-dose regimen is enough to prevent infection or if immunity will last (if it does prevent infection/severe symptoms)
- Vaccination sites can be found [here](#)
- In MA there are currently 228 cases to date, updated August 18th, 2022