

Update on Mpox (August 2024) **IMPORTANT: Information Only – Consult Your Neurologist or Doctor**

■ Virus Information

Virus Name: Monkeypox virus
Virus Type: Enveloped, double-stranded DNA virus
Virus Classification: Poxviridae family
(other members include smallpox [variola])
Virus Variants: clade I (Congo Basin); clade II (West African)
Clade I: more virulent and more contagious than clade II
Clade II: less virulent and less contagious than clade I
Related Viruses: Varicella-zoster virus (chicken pox; shingles)
Other DNA viruses: Herpesviruses; Hepatitis B virus; others

■ Disease Information

Disease Name: Mpox (formerly called Monkey Pox)
U.S. Incidence: Since 2022 ~35,000 cases / 60 deaths; prior U.S. outbreak in 2003
Variant Cases: As of 8/22/24 all U.S. cases are clade II

■ Epidemiology Information

Distribution: Equatorial Africa (Central = West > East)
Proximate Risk: Countries bordering affected regions in Africa
Global Risks: Travelers returning from high-risk African regions
[WHO statement](#): Mpox outbreak as public health emergency

Note: Mpox is largely spread by close or direct contact with an infected person. It is most commonly spread through sexual or intimate contact; incidence is higher among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (MSM). Most individuals who do not travel to high risk regions or practice high risk lifestyles remain at very low risk of infection. Mpox can be spread by respiratory secretions of those infected (e.g. derived from cough, nasal or oral secretions).

■ Clinical Information

Incubation Period: 3-21 days post-exposure
Signs:
Hallmark: rash that evolves to painful fluid-filled blisters (vesicles) that scab (pox)
Other: fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes
Differential Dx: Mpox; Chickenpox; Shingles; *Histoplasma*; *Cryptococcus*; other IDs
Symptoms:
Hallmark: Pain (skin blisters); scabs take weeks to resolve and may cause scarring
Other: flu-like (headache; sore throat; cough; aches; fatigue)

■ Prevention Information

Vaccine: Jynneos®: non-replicating live virus; prevents Mpox and Smallpox; 2 doses >28d apart
Received emergency use authorization (EUA) from FDA in 2022 for Mpox prevention
Recommended by ACIP to prevent Mpox in exposed patients or those at high risk
[CDC Mpox Vaccination Site](#) addressing considerations for Mpox immunization & risks
[FDA EUA \(2022\) Factsheet](#) for use of Jynneos® to prevent Mpox
Masking: Practice masking and distancing in situations where social exposure may be possible
Hygiene: If exposed to infected individual practice skin hygiene in all potentially affected sites

■ NMOSD Patient Information

Note: Jynneos® considered to be safe in patients receiving immune-modifying or -suppressing therapeutics as it is non-replicating; [ACAM2000® is a replicating live virus and thus is ***not recommended*** for use in patients with NMOSD receiving immune-altering medicine]

■ CDC Advisory Information (updated 8-24-2024)

[CDC About Mpox Site](#) provides an overview of Mpox and its recent outbreak beginning 2022
[Traveler Health Guidance](#) (also see: www.cdc.gov/travel)