



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

August 1, 2022

MEDICAL ADVISORY: DIAGNOSIS, MANAGEMENT AND PREVENTION OF MONKEYPOX VIRUS INFECTION

- All clinically suspected monkeypox cases should be reported immediately to Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH)
- Testing for monkeypox is now available through 5 commercial labs in addition to the Hawaii State Laboratories Division
- Patients with monkeypox with severe infections, at risk of severe infection, or lesions in anatomically sensitive areas such the genitals or anus can be treated with Tecovirimat which can be arranged through HDOH
- A limited number of JYNNEOS doses are available for expanded post exposure prophylaxis for Hawaii residents who are at increased risk of monkeypox infection.

Dear Healthcare Provider:

This advisory provides updated information on monkeypox cases in Hawaii, testing, treatment, vaccination, and infection control.

To date, there have been 11 cases of monkeypox infection diagnosed in the State of Hawaii; 9 on Oahu, 1 on Hawaii Island, 1 on Kauai. Ten cases were reported among Hawaii residents. One non-resident and 2 resident cases had exposures related to travel outside of the state. Not all cases have been linked to travel or contact with other known cases, suggesting local transmission is occurring. Most cases nationwide and in Hawaii have been among gay and bisexual men who have sex with men.

In the [current U.S. outbreak](#), many cases are initially presenting with rash in the absence of prodromal symptoms. Patients can present with proctitis without recognized skin lesions. Mucosal lesions may be seen on examination. Providers should be alert for patients who have any symptoms or signs consistent with monkeypox, particularly if [epidemiologic risk factors](#) are present.

Testing

Consider monkeypox for any patient with a characteristic lesion (deep-seated, well-circumscribed and with central umbilication), or any patient with risk factors and clinically compatible illness.

Testing for patients suspected of monkeypox is now available through [Quest Diagnostics](#), [Sonic Healthcare](#), [LabCorp](#), [Aegis Science](#), and [Mayo Clinic Laboratories](#). *No prior approval is needed* when sent to commercial labs and should be coordinated directly through local commercial laboratory providers.

Testing continues to be available at the Hawaii State Laboratories Division (SLD) for suspect cases with a high index of suspicion for monkeypox infection based on the following criteria:

- New characteristic rash (submit photograph of skin lesions for review by Disease Investigation Branch staff), OR
- Clinically compatible illness and [epidemiologic risk factors](#) for monkeypox infection.

Approval is required prior to submission to SLD and is obtained by contacting HDOH's Disease Outbreak Control Division at one of the numbers listed below.

Providers are responsible for providing test results to patients (for testing performed at SLD, HDOH will notify providers of results). Please let patients know that you will be following up with them directly with test results. Advise patients waiting for test results to isolate at home, avoid contact with others, and monitor their symptoms. If the test result is positive, advise them to continue to follow the same precautions until all scabs have fallen off and a fresh layer of skin has formed.

Treatment

Although Monkeypox infections are often mild and can be managed with supportive care, patients with severe infections, at risk of severe infection, or lesions in anatomically sensitive areas, such as the genitals, anus, or near the eyes, can be treated with [Tecovirimat](#) available through a CDC held emergency access investigational new drug (EA-IND) protocol. The [requirements](#) for the newly simplified protocol have been reduced and now only require completion of an informed consent form, patient intake form at baseline, clinical outcome form during and after treatment, and reporting of any serious adverse events. One signed FDA form 1572 per facility is required to be filed with the CDC. Tecovirimat must be ordered from the strategic national stockpile (SNS) through HDOH by contacting one of the numbers below.

Vaccination

[JYNNEOS](#) is a live, attenuated, non-replicating Vaccinia virus vaccine licensed by the FDA for prevention of monkeypox disease in adults 18 years of age and older. Close contacts of someone with monkeypox identified by HDOH through contact tracing will be offered vaccine for postexposure prophylaxis (PEP). A limited number of doses are available through Hawaii DOH and clinical providers working in partnership with HDOH for expanded PEP. Currently, Hawaii Residents age 18 or older who meet one of the following criteria can now receive JYNNEOS:

- Persons with contact in the last 14 days with persons with infectious monkeypox infection
- Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender individuals with high risk intimate contact in the last 14 days in venues (sex-on-premises events, bathhouses, sex clubs) or areas where monkeypox is known to be spreading.

Individuals eligible for vaccination may arrange for vaccination by contacting the HDOH monkeypox vaccination line at 808-586-4462.

At this time, HDOH recommends that first doses be prioritized in order to use available vaccine to greatest effect in containing the current outbreak. For individuals with severe immune compromise (e.g., advanced or untreated HIV infection, active cancer treatment, high-dose steroids), second doses should be scheduled 28 days after the first dose. HDOH will communicate to providers when adequate vaccine supply is available to offer second doses to other first dose recipients.

Infection Control

Secondary cases of monkeypox as a result of occupational exposure are exceedingly rare and have not been reported in the current outbreak. Standard precautions should be applied to minimize risk of exposure in healthcare settings, including use of gloves and proper hand hygiene when examining skin lesions of patients in whom monkeypox infection might be suspected. More detailed CDC recommendations for prevention and control of monkeypox in healthcare settings are available [here](#).

Monkeypox is considered an **URGENTLY REPORTABLE** condition. Providers should notify HDOH immediately of all clinically suspected cases and of persons with a positive laboratory test for orthopoxvirus by contacting one of the numbers below. Laboratories are required to report positive test results for orthopoxvirus through electronic laboratory reporting within 24 hours of test completion.

Oahu (Disease Reporting Line).....(808) 586-4586
Maui District Health Office.....(808) 984-8213
Kauai District Health Office.....(808) 241-3563
Big Island District Health Office (Hilo).....(808) 933-0912
Big Island District Health Office (Kona).....(808) 322-4877
After hours on Oahu.....(808) 566-5049
After hours on neighbor islands.....(800) 360-2575 (toll free)

We greatly appreciate your efforts to help protect Hawaii’s population during this ongoing monkeypox outbreak.

Sincerely,



Sarah K. Kemble, M.D.
Hawaii State Epidemiologist

Additional Resources:

Quest Diagnostics. <https://www.questdiagnostics.com/healthcare-professionals/about-our-tests/infectious-diseases/monkeypox>

Sonic Healthcare. <https://www.sonichealthcareusa.com/about-us/news/2022/07/sonic-healthcare-usa-announces-testing-availability-for-monkeypox/>

LabCorp. <https://www.labcorp.com/infectious-disease/monkeypox>

Aegis Science. <https://www.aegislabs.com/our-services/monkeypox/>

Mayo Clinic Laboratories. <https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/2022/07/11/mayo-clinic-laboratories-launches-monkeypox-test-to-increase-access-availability/>

Guidance for Tecovirimat Use Under Expanded Access Investigational New Drug Protocol during 2022 U.S. Monkeypox Cases. <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/Tecovirimat.html>

Information for Healthcare Providers on Obtaining and Using TPOXX (Tecovirimat) for Treatment of Monkeypox. <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/obtaining-tecovirimat.html>

JYNNEOS Package Insert. <https://www.fda.gov/media/131078/download>

MMWR: Use of JYNNEOS (Smallpox and Monkeypox Vaccine, Live, Nonreplicating) for Preexposure Vaccination of Persons at Risk for Occupational Exposure to Orthopoxviruses: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices — United States, 2022
<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/71/wr/mm7122e1.htm>

Infection Control: Healthcare Settings. <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/infection-control-healthcare.html>

Monkeypox | Disease Outbreak Control Division (hawaii.gov).
https://health.hawaii.gov/docd/disease_listing/monkeypox