

Health Advisory: Monkeypox Reporting, Testing, and Vaccine

Minnesota Department of Health, Wed July 13 10:00 CDT 2022

Action Steps

Local and tribal health department: Please forward to hospitals, clinics, urgent care centers, emergency departments, and convenience clinics in your jurisdiction.

Hospitals, clinics and other facilities: Please forward to infection preventionists, internists, infectious disease doctors, emergency department staff, sexual health clinics, dermatology clinics, primary care clinics and all other health care providers who might see patients presenting with a rash-like illness.

Health care providers:

- Know that some commercial laboratories, in addition to MDH-PHL are offering testing for monkeypox.
- Report suspected cases of monkeypox to MDH at 651-201-5414 or 1-877-676-5414 even when using a commercial laboratory for testing.
- Ensure proper specimen collection and shipping requirements for monkeypox testing.
- Consider post exposure vaccine recommendations for individuals who have had close contact with someone with monkeypox. Contact MDH for assistance in obtaining vaccine.

Situation Update

Currently in Minnesota, monkeypox testing is available via the Minnesota Department of Health's Public Health Laboratory (PHL). At this time, Labcorp and Mayo Clinic Laboratories also offer monkeypox testing and additional commercial reference laboratories are expected to offer monkeypox testing soon (see links to announcements below).

Reporting Update

As providers have more options for monkeypox testing, it is still very important for providers to continue timely reporting of suspected monkeypox cases to MDH. While prior approval for testing will no longer be required, MDH requests that suspect cases of monkeypox are still reported to MDH so that appropriate public health follow-up actions can be taken.

Specimen Collection Reminders

When collecting a specimen for testing, ensure instructions for obtaining an adequate sample is followed, and that appropriate swabs and containers are used. Poor sampling techniques have resulted in indeterminate results for multiple samples collected over the last few weeks. It is important to closely follow the specimen collection instructions provided by each laboratory. Specimens need to be stored and shipped at refrigeration temperature, and swabs must be stored in sterile containers. For more detailed guidance on specimen collection and submission for monkeypox testing at MDH-PHL, please refer to links below.

Vaccine and Tecovirimat Update

The supply of JYNNEOS vaccine is limited at this time and should be prioritized for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) of people exposed to known or highly suspected cases. Providers should contact MDH at 651-201-5414 for assistance in obtaining PEP. More vaccine is expected, and additional recommendations will be coming soon. Tecovirimat is available through an expanded access investigational new drug protocol through CDC for the treatment of monkeypox. Call MDH at 651-201-5414 if you have a patient for whom you are considering tecovirimat. Refer to the links below for more information on tecovirimat.

For More Information

- [MDH Monkeypox Information for Health Professionals](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/monkeypox/hcp.html)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/monkeypox/hcp.html>)
- [MDH Monkeypox Testing and Specimen Submission](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/monkeypox/hcp.html#test)
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/monkeypox/hcp.html#test>)
- [Mayo Clinic Laboratories to Begin Monkeypox Testing Today, Increasing Nationwide Testing Capacity](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0711-monkeypox-mayo.html)
(<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0711-monkeypox-mayo.html>)

HEALTH ADVISORY: MONKEYPOX REPORTING, TESTING, AND VACCINE

- [Labcorp to Begin Monkeypox Testing Today, Doubling Nationwide Testing Capacity: https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0706-monkeypox-labcorp.html](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2022/s0706-monkeypox-labcorp.html)
- [HHS Expanding Monkeypox Testing Capacity to Five Commercial Laboratory Companies \(https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/06/22/hhs-expanding-monkeypox-testing-capacity-five-commercial-laboratory-companies.html\)](https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/06/22/hhs-expanding-monkeypox-testing-capacity-five-commercial-laboratory-companies.html)
- [Guidance for Tecovirimat Use Under Expanded Access Investigational New Drug Protocol during 2022 U.S. Monkeypox Cases \(https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/Tecovirimat.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/Tecovirimat.html)
- [CDC Monkeypox \(https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/index.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/index.html)
CDC is currently reviewing this information to consider the need for updates.
 - [CDC Clinical Recognition of Monkeypox \(https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/clinical-recognition.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/clinical-recognition.html)
 - [CDC Monkeypox Treatment \(https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/treatment.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/treatment.html)
 - [Monkeypox CDC HAN \(https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2022/han00466.asp\)](https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2022/han00466.asp)
 - [WHO Monkeypox \(https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/monkeypox\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/monkeypox)

For question call MDH at 651-201-5414 or 877-676-5414A copy of this HAN is available at: [MDH Health Alert Network \(http://www.health.state.mn.us/han\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/han)

The content of this message is intended for public health and health care personnel and response partners who have a need to know the information to perform their duties.