



ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Health Advisory ACPHD

Purpose:

To provide updated information to Alameda County health care providers regarding monkeypox cases, testing, and vaccination.

Situation Update:

In Alameda County and the United States, cases of mpox (formerly monkeypox) have declined since peaking in August 2022, but the outbreak is not over. Ongoing community transmission in the United States and internationally is occurring. CDC and local partners are investigating a cluster of mpox cases in the Chicago area. From March 18, 2023 to May 15, 2023, a total of 21 cases of mpox were reported to the Chicago Department of Public Health. All cases were among symptomatic men, and no patients have been hospitalized. Seventeen of the 21 with vaccine information were vaccinated, 11 of which were with two doses of the JYNNEOS vaccine. Six had a travel history outside the Chicago area. It is important to note, no vaccine is 100% effective. The reasons why mpox infections occurred despite vaccination is unknown, but is being investigated.

Completing the 2-dose Mpox vaccine series:

Recent [data](#) on vaccine efficacy showed that the vaccine effectiveness was 86% for two doses of JYNNEOS vaccine, and 75% for one dose. Overall, 59.6% of persons in Alameda County who received their first dose of JYNNEOS vaccine, also got their second dose. Now is the best time to ensure completion of the two-dose mpox vaccine series.

Testing for HIV and other STIs:

Previous publications have noted that 41% of mpox cases were persons living with HIV and 38% had a sexually transmitted infection such as gonorrhea, chlamydia, or syphilis in the previous year. Sexually active adults and adolescents with suspected, probable, or confirmed mpox should be screened for HIV and other STIs. In addition, it is important for clinicians to ensure mpox cases have information on their diagnosis and the importance of isolation, and that patients are evaluated to ensure resolution of disease.

As the summer months and celebrations surrounding LGBTQ PRIDE approach, now is the best time to get vaccine, and complete the two-dose mpox vaccine series. The vaccine is safe and very effective, and the two-dose mpox vaccine is a part of the prevention toolbox which includes education on mpox transmission, prompt testing and isolation, and post-exposure vaccination. There are several upcoming events to get vaccinated at no cost. For information on where to get vaccinated— including community PODS, -and local bars— see [Planned Vaccine Events](#) (more

clinics coming soon). Many healthcare settings also have vaccine and there are opportunities to improve vaccination through vaccine reminders and outreach to your patients.

Healthcare providers:

- Healthcare providers should suspect and test for mpox in patients with a new rash, even if a person has received mpox vaccination. Prompt testing and isolation until results of testing return can limit spread of the infection. Any suspect, probable, or confirmed mpox case should be reported within 24 hrs to ACPHD by email at AcuteCD@acgov.org.
- Healthcare providers should encourage persons to stay up to date with their sexual health care. Continue to offer JYNNEOS vaccine. Completion of the two-dose mpox vaccine series provides the best protection, even if the second dose is given beyond the recommended 28-day time frame between doses. Enhanced efforts can improve vaccination, such as email reminders or calls to patients that have only received one dose of the vaccine. Here is [ACPHD guidance](#) on mpox vaccine and updates on community mpox vaccine activities.
- ACPHD is available to provide and facilitate consultation on complex patients with mpox. CDC has provided resources for cases with severe manifestations of disease. More information can be found in the [CDC Health Advisory](#).
- Healthcare providers should test any suspect, probable, or confirmed mpox case for HIV infection, syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea (chlamydia and gonorrhea screening at all anatomic sites of exposure: anus, oropharynx, urethra). Resources are available to support your patients: specific to [mpox](#), and [sexual health](#).

Accessible and stigma-free services:

Stigma and discrimination limit the opportunities for prevention. *Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD) has a zero-tolerance stance to stigma and discrimination.* ACPHD strongly recommends that all healthcare providers are [trained](#) to provide sensitive and evidence-based care, including care that is culturally/linguistically appropriate and gender affirming, to the following overlapping populations: low-income individuals, people of color, immigrants, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender queer and gender non-binary people.

Additional Resources

Ordering mpox vaccine [Home \(ca.gov\)](#)

[Health Alert Network \(HAN\) - 00490 | Potential Risk for New Mpox Cases \(cdc.gov\)](#)

[California Prevention Training Center](#)

- Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity
- STD Expert Hour Webinar - Sexual History Taking
- Moving from Bias to Engagement Using Cultural Humility
- Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity

[CDC STD Treatment Guidelines](#)

[CDC STD Screening Recommendations for Men who have Sex with Men \(MSM\)](#)

[CDC MMWR on HIV and STI Co-Infections among MPX Cases](#)

[CDPH Mpox website](#)

[CDC Mpox website](#)

[ACPHD MPX Website—For Health Care Providers](#)

