

K'ima:w Medical Center

P.O. Box 1288, Hoopa, California 95546

Telephone (530) 625-4261

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An entity of the Hoopa Valley Tribe

Monkeypox

8.8.2022

K'ima:w Medical Center has been working closely with Humboldt County Public Health since August 2 (before first case confirmed in Humboldt County) and has the capability to locally collect specimens for testing and access to antiviral medication and vaccines on a priority basis. Infection control processes are in place at the Medical Center.

Infectious Disease: *Monkeypox*

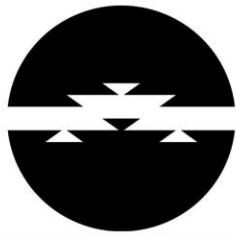
- 1) August 4, 2022: U.S. Government declares *monkeypox* as public health emergency

August 8, 2022, Monkeypox Situational Report

- 1) Global: Total confirmed monkeypox cases: 28,220
- 2) U.S.: Total confirmed monkeypox cases: 7510
- 3) California: Total confirmed monkeypox cases: 826
- 4) Total confirmed monkeypox cases in Humboldt County: 1

Humboldt County Monkeypox Update: 8.8.2022

- 1) First case reported in Humboldt County on 8.5.2022
- 2) DHHS Public Health received an allotment of 20 monkeypox vaccines
- 3) A quarter of the allotment will be used to vaccinate staff in Humboldt and Del Norte counties
- 4) The additional vaccines are available in case of an outbreak
- 5) CDPH was able to place an order last week for more vaccines and expected to arrive soon
- 6) CDPH also received more than 400 doses of an antiviral medication which would be made available for people with severe complications
 - High Risk/Immunocompromised Individuals
 - 8 years old or younger, pregnant, or breastfeeding
 - Have a history of skin disease may also be eligible for medication



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About Monkeypox:

Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. Monkeypox virus is part of the same family of viruses as variola virus, the virus that causes smallpox. Monkeypox symptoms are similar to smallpox symptoms, but milder, and monkeypox is rarely fatal. Monkeypox is not related to chickenpox.

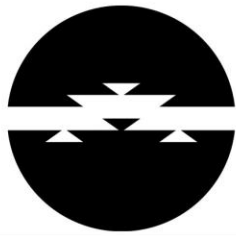
Monkeypox was discovered in 1958 when two outbreaks of a pox-like disease occurred in colonies of monkeys kept for research. Despite being named “monkeypox,” the source of the disease remains unknown. However, African rodents and non-human primates (like monkeys) might harbor the virus and infect people.

The first human case of monkeypox was recorded in 1970. Prior to the 2022 outbreak, monkeypox had been reported in people in several central and western African countries. Previously, almost all monkeypox cases in people outside of Africa were linked to international travel to countries where the disease commonly occurs or through imported animals. These cases occurred on multiple continents.

Transmission:

Monkeypox spreads in a few ways.

- Monkeypox can spread to anyone through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact, including:
 - Direct contact with monkeypox rash, scabs, or body fluids from a person with monkeypox.
 - Touching objects, fabrics (clothing, bedding, or towels), and surfaces that have been used by someone with monkeypox.
 - Contact with respiratory secretions.
- This direct contact can happen during intimate contact, including:
 - Oral, anal, and vaginal sex or touching the genitals (penis, testicles, labia, and vagina) or anus (butthole) of a person with monkeypox.



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- Hugging, massage, and kissing.
- Prolonged face-to-face contact.
- Touching fabrics and objects during sex that were used by a person with monkeypox and that have not been disinfected, such as bedding, towels, fetish gear, and sex toys.

- A pregnant person can spread the virus to their fetus through the placenta.

It's also possible for people to get monkeypox from infected animals, either by being scratched or bitten by the animal or by preparing or eating meat or using products from an infected animal.

A person with monkeypox can spread it to others from the time symptoms start until the rash has fully healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks.

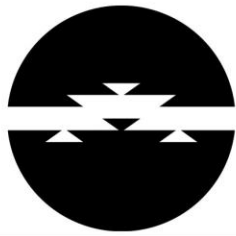
Scientists are still researching:

- If the virus can be spread when someone has no symptoms
- How often monkeypox is spread through respiratory secretions, or when a person with monkeypox symptoms might be more likely to spread the virus through respiratory secretions.
- Whether monkeypox can be spread through semen, vaginal fluids, urine, or feces.

Monkeypox Symptoms

People with monkeypox get a rash that may be located on or near the genitals (penis, testicles, labia, and vagina) or anus (butthole) and could be on other areas like the hands, feet, chest, face, or mouth.

- The rash will go through several stages, including scabs, before healing.
- The rash can initially look like pimples or blisters and may be painful or itchy.



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Other symptoms of monkeypox can include:

* Fever, Chills, Swollen lymph nodes, Exhaustion, Muscle aches and backache, Headache, Respiratory symptoms (sore throat, nasal congestion or cough)

You may experience all or only a few symptoms

- Sometimes, people have flu-like symptoms before the rash.
- Some people get a rash first, followed by other symptoms.
- Others only experience a rash.

How long do monkeypox symptoms last?

Monkeypox symptoms usually start within 3 weeks of exposure to the virus. If someone has flu-like symptoms, they will usually develop a rash 1-4 days later.

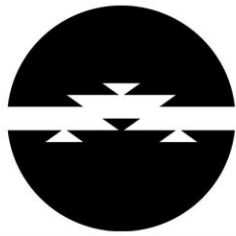
Monkeypox can be spread from the time symptoms start until the rash has healed, all scabs have fallen off, and a fresh layer of skin has formed. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks.

If You Have a New or Unexplained Rash or Other Symptoms ...

- Avoid close contact, including sex or being intimate with anyone, until you have been checked out by a healthcare provider.
- If you don't have a provider or health insurance, visit a public health clinic near you.
- When you see a healthcare provider, wear a mask, and remind them that this virus is circulating in the area.

Treatments:

There are no treatments specifically for monkeypox virus infections. However, monkeypox and smallpox viruses are genetically similar, which means that antiviral drugs and vaccines developed to protect against smallpox may be used to prevent and treat monkeypox virus infections.



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Antivirals, such as tecovirimat (TPOXX), may be recommended for people who are more likely to get severely ill, like patients with weakened immune systems.

If you have symptoms of monkeypox, you should talk to your healthcare provider, even if you don't think you had contact with someone who has monkeypox.

If you are experiencing symptoms or have been in contact with an individual who has tested positive for monkeypox, please contact your health care provider. If you do not have a provider, call Public Health at 707-445-6200.

To learn more about prevention steps, visit the CDC at [cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/prevention.html](https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/prevention.html).

Vaccination

Current vaccination priority is for **post exposure** prophylaxis (prevention) and **pre-exposure prophylaxis for high-risk workers** as recommended by the national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP).

As vaccine supply increases, expanded vaccination considerations are being developed with a priority tier of high risk groups. As this guidance is developed K'ima:w anticipates being able to offer vaccines for these groups.

Prevention

- Avoid close, skin to skin contact with people with a rash that looks like monkeypox
- Avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with monkeypox has used
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially before eating or touching your face and after you use the bathroom