



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.

July 22, 2022



PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY

Monkeypox Virus Activity in Marin County and Guidance for Clinicians

Benita McLarin, FACHE
DIRECTOR

Matthew Willis, MD, MPH
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

Lisa M. Santora, MD, MPH
DEPUTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER

Marin County Public Health (MCPH) is responding to a global outbreak of monkeypox in non-endemic countries, including the United States. There have been two cases of monkeypox reported in Marin County so far. This Advisory provides guidance for evaluating patients with symptoms consistent with monkeypox and referring patients for vaccine. The current monkeypox situation is rapidly evolving and the information below will be updated as new information emerges. The risk of monkeypox to the general public is currently low.

Background

MCPH is working with healthcare providers and other local health jurisdictions to identify people who may have been in contact with people who have tested positive for monkeypox, so they can [monitor their health](#) and access post-exposure prophylaxis (if indicated).

People with [monkeypox](#) in the current outbreak generally report having close, sustained physical contact with other people who have monkeypox. While nearly all affected are gay, bisexual, or other men who have sex with men, anyone who has been in close contact with someone who has monkeypox can get the illness.

Marin healthcare providers should be alert for patients who have rash illnesses [consistent with monkeypox](#), regardless of whether they have travel or specific risk factors for monkeypox and regardless of gender or sexual orientation.

Jynneos Monkeypox Vaccine

[Jynneos](#) is an attenuated, live, non-replicating smallpox and monkeypox vaccine that elicits humoral and cellular immune responses to orthopoxviruses. No data are available yet on the effectiveness of these vaccines in the current outbreak. The vaccination series with Jynneos consists of 2 doses, normally given 28 days apart, both for post-exposure prophylaxis and pre-exposure vaccination.

- **Monkeypox Vaccine Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP):** For the current outbreak, this approach can be considered as “standard PEP” for monkeypox. CDC recommends that the vaccine be given within 4 days from the date of exposure for the best chance to prevent onset of the disease. If given between 4 and 14 days after the date of exposure, vaccination may reduce the symptoms of disease, but may not prevent the disease.
- **Outbreak Response Monkeypox Vaccine Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)++:** The PEP++ approach aims to reach these people for post-exposure prophylaxis, even if they have not had documented exposure to

3240 Kerner Boulevard
San Rafael, CA 94901
415 473 4163 T
415 473 2326 F
415 473 3232 TTY
marinhhs.org/public-health

someone with confirmed monkeypox (e.g., attendance at a gathering or venue with known monkeypox exposure).

- **Monkeypox Vaccine Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP):** This approach refers to administering vaccine to someone at high risk for monkeypox.

Dosing Interval

The vaccination series with Jynneos consists of 2 doses, normally given 28 days apart. However, because supplies are limited, MCPH is recommending that second doses be deferred until more people who meet criteria for first doses are able to access vaccine.

Eligibility Criteria for Jynneos Monkeypox Vaccine

- Determination by MCPH or licensed healthcare provider that close contact occurred with suspected or confirmed Monkeypox case within the past 14 days. Laboratory confirmation is not required to initiate post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).
- Self-report of:
 - Close contact with a suspected or confirmed Monkeypox case within the past 14 days (PEP), or
 - Receipt of a notification from a venue or public health authority of potential exposure to a Monkeypox case at a venue within the past 14 days (PEP++), or,
 - Close contact with others at an event or within a social group within the past 14 days where one or more Monkeypox case(s) were identified (PEP++), or,
 - Men who have sex with men (MSM) who have had more than two sexual partners in the past 14 days, or,
 - MSM who have tested positive for any sexually transmitted disease in the past month.

Many non-Monkeypox syndromes can be consistent with early symptoms of Monkeypox. A person otherwise eligible for PEP who has a nonspecific rash or nonspecific symptoms that could possibly be consistent with early Monkeypox, may still be able to receive PEP if it is warranted per the clinician's judgement.

Jynneos Monkeypox Vaccine Supply

Currently the supply of Jynneos is extremely limited.

- As of July 22, MCPH has received 150 doses from the California Department of Public Health. These have been distributed in small numbers to healthcare providers who provide care for the highest risk patients, and some doses are being held by MCPH to provide PEP for known close contacts.
- MCPH has requested 1000 doses to support vaccinations for at-risk Marin County residents through the end of August.

- When additional doses become available, MCPH will distribute vaccine to healthcare providers and will co-host vaccine clinics dedicated to high-risk communities, as supplies allow. The time and location of such clinics will be communicated when supply is confirmed.
- MCPH is working with other Bay Area public health departments to increase regional supply and prioritize access for persons who have had the highest risk exposures and/or for exposed persons with host factors that increase their risk for Monkeypox complications.

Actions Requested of Providers

1. Review Marin County Public Health eligibility criteria (see above) for the Jynneos Monkeypox vaccine. Contact Marin County Public Health to coordinate vaccination for patients who meet criteria.
2. Evaluate symptomatic persons. Consider monkeypox as a possible diagnosis in persons with a rash consistent with monkeypox, especially in persons who:
 - report contact with a person with confirmed or suspected monkeypox; or,
 - is a man who regularly has intimate contact with other men.
3. Contact Marin County Public Health if you identify a suspected case for consultation and testing support. During business hours, call (415) 473-4163. After hours, call the Health Officer On Duty at (415) 499-7237.
4. Multiple commercial labs are offering Monkeypox testing without the need for Public Health approval.
 - **Quest** – offering real-time PCR for non-variola orthopoxviruses and monkeypox virus
 - **LabCorp** – using CDC Orthopox assay with CDC confirmation
 - **Mayo Clinic** - using CDC Orthopox assay with CDC confirmation
 - **Aegis** - using CDC Orthopox assay with CDC confirmation
 - **Sonic Healthcare / Westpac** - using CDC Orthopox assay with CDC confirmation
5. Provide [infection control instructions](#) for patients suspected of monkeypox. Marin County Public Health will determine the duration of isolation.
6. If first dose of vaccine is provided before August 8, please do not schedule second dose at the time of vaccination. Rather, make plans to notify patients of their second dose appointment in the coming weeks.
7. Remain engaged as the situation is evolving and updates occur regularly.