



Monkeypox Information for Providers in Barry and Eaton Counties

(Updated 7/29/2022)

Monkeypox is a viral disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. Healthcare providers are urged to be alert and to know the signs and symptoms to identify monkeypox.

Clinicians:

Monkeypox is a reportable condition in Michigan. If monkeypox is suspected, please call one of the following to report the suspected case:

- Barry-Eaton District Health Department: monkeypox@bedhd.org or 517-541-2641
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Emerging & Zoonotic Infections Diseases Section: 517-335-8165 (after hours: 517-335- 9030)

Key Characteristics for Identifying Monkeypox:

- Lesions are well-circumscribed, deep-seated, and often develop umbilication (resembles a dot on the top of the lesion)
- Lesions are relatively the same size and same stage of development on a single site of the body (ex: pustules on the face or vesicles on the legs)
- Fever before rash
- Lymphadenopathy common
- A disseminated rash is centrifugal (more lesions on extremities, face)
- Lesions on palms, soles
- Lesions are often described as painful until the healing phase when they become itchy (crusts)

Epidemiologic Criteria Within 21 days of illness onset:

- Report having had contact with a person or people who have a similar appearing rash or received a diagnosis of confirmed or probable monkeypox
- Is a man who regularly has close or intimate in-person contact with other men
- Traveled to a country with confirmed cases of monkeypox AND at least one of the above criteria

OR

- Traveled to country where monkeypox is endemic
- Contact with a dead or live wild animal or exotic pet that is an African endemic species or used a product derived such animals (e.g., game meat, creams, lotions, powders, etc.)

Testing Info:

- Appropriately collected samples can be sent to your Public Health Laboratory (Laboratory Response Network (LRN) laboratory) for testing by PCR.
 1. Laboratory Response Network laboratories (LRN) can provide orthopoxvirus testing on lesion specimens that clinicians obtain from suspected monkeypox patients. If

orthopoxvirus is positive, further characterization of the specimen occurs at CDC. CDC requires dry swabs of lesion material, swabs of lesion material in VTM, or crusts.

2. When collecting specimens,
 - Vigorously swab or brush lesion with two separate sterile synthetic swabs (including, but not limited to polyester, nylon, or Dacron) with plastic, wood, or thin aluminum shaft. Do not use cotton swabs. Collect multiple specimens for initial and secondary testing as follows:
 - Break off the end of the applicator of each swab into a 1.5- or 2-mL screw-capped tube with an O-ring or place each entire swab in a separate sterile container that has a gasket seal and can be shipped under the required conditions. Two swabs from each lesion should be collected, preferably from different locations on the body or from lesions that differ in appearance. Swabs and other specimens should be placed in different containers. If using transport media, only VTM is accepted at CDC at this time; do not use universal transport media.
 - [Lab Advisory: CDC Updates Specimen Collection Guidelines for Monkeypox Virus.](#)
3. Specimen collection, storage, and shipping of human specimens is subject to CLIA restrictions. Specimens being sent to CDC for testing should be stored refrigerated (2-8°C) or frozen (-20°C or lower) within an hour of collection. [CDC 50.34](#) form must be included for each specimen. When possible, ship specimens on dry ice. Specimens received outside of acceptable temperature ranges will be rejected.
4. Laboratory testing has indicated that the current monkeypox outbreak is associated with the West African clade of monkeypox virus. The U.S. government does not consider the West African clade of monkeypox virus as meeting the definition of Category A infectious substance under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR). Therefore, specimens and material suspected or confirmed to contain the West African clade of monkeypox virus can be shipped as UN 3373 Biological Substance, Category B. [See U.S. Department of Transportation's \(DOT\) Transporting Infectious Substances Safely](#)
5. and [Managing Solid Waste Contaminated with a Category A Infectious Substance](#) (pg. 94) for further guidance.
6. Refer to the Poxvirus Serology test on the [CDC Test Directory](#) for further specimen storage, packaging, and shipping instructions.
7. For current information on the Molecular Detection test, please contact the CDC at poxvirus@cdc.gov for details on the collection, storage, packaging, and shipping of specimens.

Acceptable Specimens and Testing Supplies:

- Polyester, Nylon, Dacron swabs with a plastic or metal shaft
- Collect 2 dry swabs from each patient for testing at MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories
- To collect, vigorously swab or brush lesions with two separate dry swabs. These two swabs may be placed in the same container if from the same source on the patient.
 - **Please ensure separate sources if collected are clearly labeled**
- Break off the end of the applicator, or cut, into a tube with a o-ring and screw cap or a sterile container (i.e. urine cups work well)

- Refrigerate (2–8°C) or freeze (-20°C or lower) specimens within an hour after collection.
- Send both swabs to your state or territorial public health laboratory. Send all specimens through the state or territorial public health department, unless authorized to send them directly to CDC

Vaccination

- CDC recommends vaccination for people who have been exposed to monkeypox and people who are at higher risk of being exposed to monkeypox, including:
 - People who have been identified by public health officials as a contact of someone with monkeypox
 - People who may have been exposed to monkeypox, such as:
 - o People who are aware that one of their sexual partners in the past 2 weeks has been diagnosed with monkeypox
 - o People who had multiple sexual partners in the past 2 weeks in an area with known monkeypox
 - People whose jobs may expose them to orthopoxviruses, such as:
 - o Laboratory workers who perform testing for orthopoxviruses
 - o Laboratory workers who handle cultures or animals with orthopoxviruses
 - o Some designated healthcare or public health workers

For more information:

- https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/-/media/Project/Websites/mdhhs/Folder1/CD_Info/Investigation-of-Suspect-Cases-of-Monkeypox_v1.pdf
- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/response/2022/hcp/index.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/>

Print Resources:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/resources/print.html>

Specimen collection:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/prep-collection-specimens.html>