



## Mpox Information for Clinicians and Public Health Practitioners

January 17, 2025

Updated February 3, 2025

On January 14, 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed the second reported case of clade I mpox in the United States; the first reported case of clade I mpox in the United States occurred in November 2024. These cases are not linked. Both individuals had recently traveled from countries experiencing clade I mpox transmission and sought medical care for mpox symptoms upon arrival in the United States.

Consistent with recent travel-associated clade I mpox cases, the patient has relatively mild illness and is recovering. CDC and the local and state health department are tracing the individual's potential contacts; no additional cases in the United States have been detected as of January 17, 2025. The [risk to the general population of the United States](#) posed by the clade I mpox outbreak remains low.

Following the [first case in the United States this past November](#), CDC issued a [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Health Advisory](#) that included recommendations for clinicians and public health practitioners regarding mpox clinical recognition, diagnosis, testing, prevention, and surveillance. These remain the current recommendations.

We are re-sharing CDC's current recommendations to help inform clinical practice for patients at risk for mpox, those with symptoms consistent with mpox, and patients traveling to areas in Africa that are [experiencing sustained clade I monkeypox virus \(MPXV\) transmission](#), including eligibility for mpox vaccine.

### **Recommendations for Clinicians and Public Health Practitioners**

1. Consider mpox as a possible diagnosis in patients with [epidemiologic characteristics](#) including recently being in countries in Central or Eastern Africa, and [lesions or other clinical signs and symptoms](#) consistent with mpox.
2. Pursue expedited clade-specific MPXV testing for patients with [risk factors for clade I mpox](#), starting with a consultation with state health departments. An orthopoxvirus positive, clade II negative test result should be flagged as potential clade I MPXV. Follow [specimen collection guidelines](#) (including two swabs per lesion). Do not unroof or aspirate lesions or use sharp objects for mpox specimen collection due to the risk of sharps injury.
3. Be aware of CDC [guidance for infection prevention and control](#) in healthcare settings.
4. Discuss mpox [prevention and risk reduction strategies](#) with all your patients traveling to [countries](#) with ongoing human-to-human transmission of clade I MPXV.
5. Recommend vaccination with the [2-dose JYNNEOS vaccine series](#) to any adult if they are traveling to a country where clade I MPXV is spreading between people AND they anticipate [sex or intimate contact](#) (including kissing or massage) with a new partner.
6. Be aware of [risk factors for clade II mpox](#), vaccination recommendations, and where patients can obtain JYNNEOS vaccine.

Several countries in Central and Eastern Africa are experiencing [outbreaks of clade I mpox](#). Clinicians and public health practitioners can refer to CDC's [Level 2 Travel Health Notice](#) (practice enhanced precautions), last updated December 2024, for recommendations regarding mpox prevention strategies for U.S. travelers visiting countries with clade I mpox outbreaks. These recommendations include [vaccination for people at risk via sexual exposure](#).



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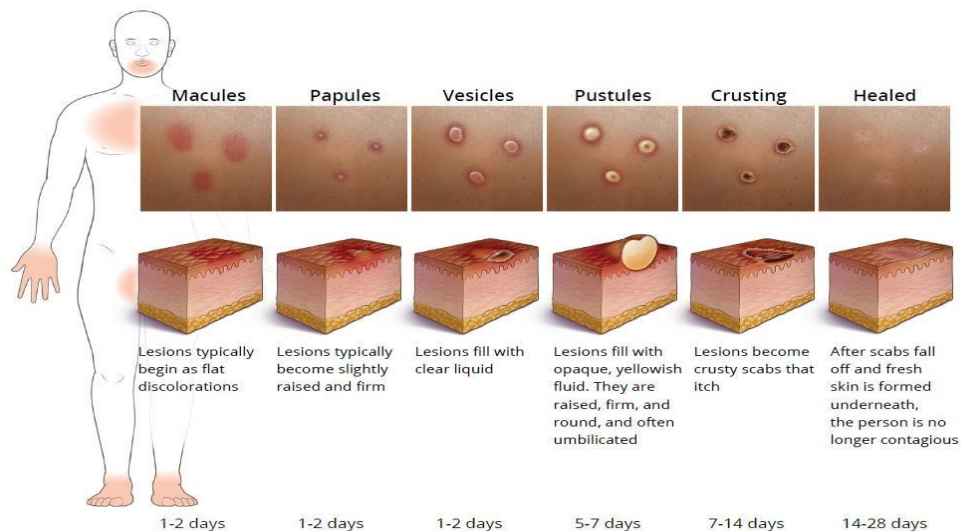
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[Travel-associated clade I mpox cases](#) have been reported in countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America. Consider a [diagnosis of mpox](#) when determining the cause of a rash or other symptoms consistent with mpox presentation given the [ongoing global outbreak of clade II mpox and several](#) travel-related cases of clade I mpox around the world.

If you have suspicion of clade I mpox, consult with your [local or state public health department](#), including discussing expedited clade-specific testing, genetic sequencing, and contact tracing. Early symptoms may include fever, malaise, headache, sore throat, or cough, and (in many cases) swollen lymph nodes. Lymphadenopathy is a characteristic feature of mpox, and lymph nodes may swell in the neck (submandibular & cervical), armpits (axillary), or groin (inguinal) and can occur on both sides of the body or just one.

People with mpox [develop lesions](#) that typically progress from macules to papules, vesicles, pustules, and then scabs. Many recent clade II mpox cases have presented without early symptoms and have only localized lesions rather than a diffuse rash.



The [clade II mpox outbreak](#) continues, with more than 3,000 cases reported in the United States in 2024. Clade II mpox is still mostly being spread through sexual and intimate contact, with gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men at the highest risk of getting mpox. Continue to recommend both doses of JYNNEOS for people [eligible for mpox vaccination](#). JYNNEOS is now routinely available in [retail pharmacies](#) and [clinics](#) and provides protection against both clades of MPXV infection. For more information about paying for the mpox vaccine, review CDC's mpox [vaccine coverage fact sheet](#).

CDC has [resources](#) to support the diagnosis and management of patients with mpox, including information on [clinical features](#) of mpox, [diagnostic tests](#), [case reporting](#), [treatment options](#), and prevention and infection control [guidance for healthcare settings](#).

CDC is available if you have questions about mpox or need clinical consultation by emailing [poxvirus@cdc.gov](mailto:poxvirus@cdc.gov). For emergencies, call CDC's 24/7 Emergency Operations Center at 770-488-7100.



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### Tools and Resources:

- CDC Travel Health Notice: [Clade I Mpox in Central and Eastern Africa - Level 2 - Practice Enhanced Precautions](#)
- [Preventing Mpox While Traveling | Mpox | CDC](#)
- [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) 00519 | First Case of Clade I Mpox Diagnosed in the United States](#)
- [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) - 00516 | Prevention Strategies for Mpox, including Vaccinating People at Risk via Sexual Exposure, for U.S. Travelers Visiting Countries with Clade I Mpox Outbreaks](#)
- [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) – 00513 | Mpox Caused by Human-to-Human Transmission of Monkeypox Virus in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with Spread to Neighboring Countries \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) – 00501 | Mpox Caused by Human-to-Human Transmission of Monkeypox Virus with Geographic Spread in the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)
- [Taking a Sexual Health History Video Series](#)
- [Atlas of Mpox Lesions - WHO](#)