



Public Health Update

Mpox update in Clark County, NV

10/26/2023

SUMMARY FOR PROVIDERS

- 5 cases of mpox in Clark County have been reported to SNHD in the past week.
- SNHD is encouraging providers to consider mpox when patients present with a rash.
- Vesicular or pustular rashes, when clinically indicated, should be sent out for testing to confirm the diagnosis of mpox.
- Patients with mpox should be counseled on vaccination as post-exposure prevention for their partners and close contacts.

Situation

The Southern Nevada Health District has received reports of five cases of mpox (formerly monkeypox) in Clark County, NV in the past week. All five cases are men between the ages of 25 and 60 and have self-identified as men who have sex with men. None of the cases are associated with each other. Some have reported a history of vaccination for mpox.

Clinical Presentation

Distinguishing features of the rash include papules, vesicles, pustules, or scabs that are deep-seated, firm, or rubbery, and have well-defined round borders. Vesicular or pustular stages of the lesion are often umbilicated (<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/mpox/clinicians/clinical-recognition.html>). They may be painful, painless, or itchy. People with monkeypox may develop symptoms including fever, headache, muscles aches, exhaustion, or swollen lymph nodes during the prodromal period or with the rash.

Testing Recommendations

Samples from vesicular lesions should be collected with providers using appropriate PPE (gown, gloves, eye protection/face shield, masks with N95 filters or higher). They can be sent out for PCR testing at these laboratories:

- [Monkeypox by PCR | Clinical Pathology Laboratories \(cpllabs.com\)](#): Test code 7410
- [Mpox \(Orthopoxvirus\), DNA, PCR Test | Labcorp](#) : Test code 140230
- [Mpox Virus DNA, Qualitative Real-Time PCR | Quest Diagnostics](#) : Test code 12084

Treatment

Tecovirimat (also known as TPOXX) is an antiviral medication available for treatment under an expanded access Investigational New Drug (EA-IND) protocol. Treatment is recommended for those with severe disease, those at risk for severe disease, and those with aberrant infections. Providers wishing to prescribe it should send an e-prescription to the SNHD Pharmacy or fax the prescription to (702) 759-1440. Because this medication is available under an EA-IND, patients must complete an Informed Consent prior to treatment and providers must

complete a patient intake form. Both forms, along with instructions for completing and submitting these forms as well as additional information about treatment, are available at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/treatment.html>.

Prophylaxis – Vaccination

Mpox vaccination should be offered to:

- People who had known or suspected exposure to someone with mpox (4-14 days from exposure)
- People who have had any of the following in the past 6 months:
 - Men who have sex with men who have had a diagnosis of a bacterial sexually transmitted disease, or report more than one sexual partner
 - Sex at a commercial sex venue
 - Sex in association with a large public event in a geographic area where mpox transmission is occurring
 - Sex in exchange for money or other items
- People who are sexual partners of people with the above risks
- People who anticipate experiencing any of the above scenarios
- People with HIV infection or other causes of immunosuppression who have had recent or anticipate potential mpox exposure
- People who work in settings where they may be exposed to mpox

SNHD offers vaccination for mpox. Information on access to vaccines can be found at:


<https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/Health-Topics/monkeypox/monkeypox-vaccine-clinics/>

Reporting

Healthcare providers must report a suspected or diagnosed case of **mpox** with the required demographic information to the Division of Disease Surveillance and Control per Nevada Administrative Code [Chapter 441A](#).

- Phone: 702-759-1300
- Fax: 702-759-1414
- Online: <https://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/news-info/reportable-diseases/reportable-diseases-form/>

If you have any questions on mpox, please contact SNHD at the SNHD Office of Acute Communicable Disease Control at 702-759-1300.



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Health Alert: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention

Health Advisory: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action **Health Update:** provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action

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