



Marion County
OREGON
Health & Human Services

ALERT

**COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO
PHARMACIES AND
PROVIDERS**

To:
Fax number:

From: Communicable Disease
Fax number: 503-566-2920

Date: **11/22/24**

Regarding: Mpox

Phone number for follow-up: 503-588-5621

Dear Colleagues,

The first known case of clade I mpox was recently identified in California on November 16, 2024. ***The risk of clade I mpox to the public remains low, and there continue to be sporadic clade II mpox cases throughout the United States.***

Immediately notify infection prevention and control personnel if a patient in your facility is suspected to have mpox. Isolate the patient in a single-person room and use PPE when entering the patient's room. Standard cleaning and disinfection procedures should be performed using an EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectant with an emerging viral pathogen claim. Avoid activities that could resuspend dried material from the lesions. Waste contaminated with mpox is designated as Category B infectious substances.

Please consider mpox when determining the cause of a diffuse or localized rash. To assess exposure risk, take a thorough history including sexual history and recent travel during the past 3 weeks. Wearing appropriate PPE (i.e., gown, gloves, eye protection, and N95), perform a thorough physical exam including skin and mucosa (e.g., oral, genital, anal). If testing is indicated:

- Don appropriate PPE (gown, gloves, eye protection, N95 or greater respirator)
- Identify 2 to 3 lesions from different locations that differ in appearance
- Avoiding contamination of the gloved hand, vigorously swab each lesion using 2 sterile, synthetic swabs with plastic, wood, or aluminum shaft. Do not use cotton swabs and unroofing vesicles is not necessary, nor recommended.
- Place each swab in a separate sterile tube and label with at least 2 patient identifiers, date of collection, and location of lesion.
- For testing at Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) see the OSPHL lab menus <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/LABORATORYSERVICES/Pages/test.aspx>

Healthcare providers and laboratories are required to report probable and confirmed cases of mpox to the local public health authority immediately. Please call the Marion County Communicable Diseases 24/7 reporting line at **503-588-5621**.

