

Mpox



WHAT IS IT?

Mpox is caused by a virus that's related to smallpox, but it is not spread as easily. It is characterized by a rash that can look like pimples or blisters and appears on the face, inside the mouth, and on other parts of the body. The rash goes through different stages before healing, a process that can take several weeks.

Mpox can spread from the time symptoms start until the rash has fully healed and a fresh layer of skin formed. This can take several weeks. People who do not have symptoms cannot spread the virus to others.

WHY SHOULD I CARE?

- Mpox has been known for many years, with recent cases detected in several countries.
- In August 2024, the WHO declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern because of an uptick of cases attributed to the virulent clade 1 of the Mpox virus, in The Democratic Republic of Congo.
- It is hardy and can survive on surfaces which may serve as a transmission source.
- Transmission can also occur from rashes, scabs, body fluids or respiratory secretions, so those in close or intimate contact with infected individuals are at higher risk. The overall risk is low, but health care worker vigilance can help limit spread.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS



SKIN RASH



FEVER



HEADACHE



MUSCLE ACHES



CHILLS

WHAT DO I DO ABOUT IT?

1. Be aware of symptoms; seek medical attention when necessary.
2. Ill people should isolate from others as much as possible to avoid spreading the virus. Continue isolation until all lesions have resolved, scabs fallen off, and a fresh layer of intact skin formed.
3. Practice effective hand hygiene by washing with soap & water or using an alcohol-based hand rub.
4. Clean and disinfect hard surfaces that may be contaminated with respiratory droplets from an infected person. Wear mask and disposable gloves and use an EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectant with an emerging viral pathogen claim.
5. The CDC provides household guidance, including use of mask/gloves for caregivers.
6. Avoid contact with infected animals (e.g., rodents or monkeys), from being scratched or bitten by the animal or by preparing or eating meat or using products from an infected animal.

TAG Public Health Experts have the experience and expertise to help companies and institutions successfully integrate science-driven public health approaches into their business strategy.