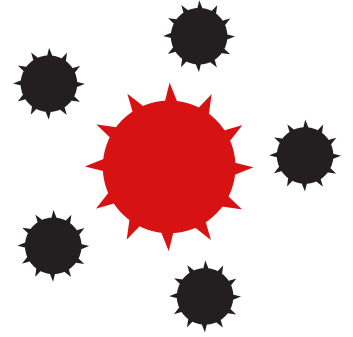


Questions and Answers Regarding Monkeypox



Q1. What is monkeypox?

Monkeypox is a zoonotic infectious disease found in some parts of Central and West Africa that result in occasional human infections usually associated with exposure to infected animals or contaminated materials. The incubation time for monkeypox is around 6 - 13 days but can range from 5 - 21 days.

Q2. Can monkeypox spread from person-to-person?

Person to person spread of monkeypox is uncommon. However, when spread does occur between people the mode of transmission is through close contact with an infected individual, such as through direct contact with their body fluids, respiratory droplets, or monkeypox sores, or by sharing clothing, bedding or common items that have been contaminated with the infected person's fluids or sores. As with many other diseases spread through close contact, people can lower their risk by **maintaining physical distance and using frequent hand and respiratory hygiene including masking.**

Q3. Is there a treatment for monkeypox?

Currently, there is no specific treatment approved for isolated cases of monkeypox.

Q4. Who is most at risk for monkeypox?

To date, many of the monkeypox cases recorded internationally have been those with travel history to affected countries, and persons who are family members or close household contacts of cases. Transmission via respiratory droplets usually requires prolonged face-to-face contact, which can put health care providers and household members of active cases at greater risk.

Q5. Has there ever been a case of monkeypox in Canada?

Prior to the first two cases confirmed on May 19, 2022, there has not been any cases of monkeypox reported in Canada.

Q6. Is Canada prepared/capable of handling and containing monkeypox virus during the COVID-19 pandemic?

The Government of Canada is prepared to respond to emerging public health events and takes precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of communicable diseases into and out of Canada.

Q7. Are there different strains of monkeypox virus?

There are two known groupings of monkeypox virus: the West African grouping and the Congo Basin grouping.

Q8. Is there a vaccine available to Canadians for monkeypox?

Health Canada has authorized the vaccine Imvamune for active immunization against monkeypox, smallpox and related orthopox virus infections and diseases in adults 18 years of age and older determined to be at high risk for exposure.

