

What You Need to Know About Monkeypox

DC | HEALTH
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Did You Know?

The majority of the current monkeypox virus in the US are among the same gender loving and/or bisexual men?

What is monkeypox?



Monkeypox is a rare, but potentially serious viral illness that can be transmitted from person to person through direct contact with bodily fluid or monkeypox lesions/rash.

How do I get monkeypox?



Monkeypox spreads between people primarily through direct contact with infectious sores, scabs, or body fluids. Monkeypox can spread during intimate contact between people, including oral, anal, and vaginal sex; massages or mutual masturbation; kissing, hugging, or talking closely; and touching fabrics and objects during sex that was used by a person with monkeypox, such as bedding, towels, and sex toys. It can also be spread through respiratory droplets or oral fluids from a person with monkeypox.

What are the symptoms of monkeypox?



Fever



Swollen Lymph Nodes



Headache



Chills



Muscle aches



Exhaustion



Backache



Skin Lesions (rash)

Symptoms usually appear 7–14 days after exposure, with range of 5–21 days.

How can I prevent monkeypox?

- ▶ Avoid coming into contact with people recently diagnosed with the virus or those who may have been infected.
- ▶ Wear a face mask if you are in close contact with someone who has symptoms.
- ▶ Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer, especially after coming into contact with those who are infected — or suspected infected.

What happens if I think I have monkeypox?

You should see your healthcare provider for a health assessment. You can visit linku.findhelp.com to find a testing center near you.

For more information about monkeypox, visit:
dchealth.dc.gov/page/monkeypox