



**ADVISORY – MONKEYPOX
NOTICE OF DUTY TO REPORT
UPDATE**

Date: July 6, 2022

Key Messages:

- Since May 2022, the United Kingdom, USA, additional European countries and now other countries continue to identify new cases of monkeypox.
- Many cases identified since then didn't report travel, and local transmission of this virus has been identified in many jurisdictions.
- Since 1 January and as of 22 June 2022, 3413 laboratory confirmed cases and one death have been reported to WHO from 50 countries/territories in five WHO Regions. Between June 17 and June 22, 2022, 1310 new cases have been reported and eight new countries have reported cases.
- On May 20, 2022, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) issued a notice of duty to report all suspected cases of monkeypox to public health.
- The PHO is now amending the details of this notice of duty to report, no longer requiring suspected cases to be reported, but focusing on probable and confirmed cases, as described below.

Reporting

- Based on this developing situation, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) has determined that the following is a reportable communicable disease under the Reporting Information Affecting Public Health Regulation of the *Public Health Act*.
 - All probable* and confirmed* cases of monkeypox (* see appendix 1)
- Clinicians must report cases to their regional public health office. Contact information for regional public health is available in Appendix 2.
- Additional online resources on monkeypox are available in Appendix 3.

Sincerely,

Dr. Martin Lavoie
Deputy Provincial Health Officer
Office of the Provincial Health Officer

Appendix 1: Monkeypox - Case Definition

Confirmed case

A person who is laboratory confirmed for monkeypox virus by detection of unique sequences of viral DNA either by real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and/or sequencing.

Probable case

A person of any age who presents with an unexplained¹ acute rash or lesion(s)²

AND

Has one or more of the following:

- Has an epidemiological link to a probable or confirmed monkeypox case in the 21 days before symptom onset, such as:
 - face-to-face exposure, including health workers without appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - direct physical contact, including sexual contact; or contact with contaminated materials such as clothing or bedding
- Reported travel history to or residence in a location where monkeypox is reported³ in the 21 days before symptom onset

NOTES

1. Common causes of acute rash can include varicella zoster, herpes zoster, measles, herpes simplex, syphilis, chancroid, lymphogranuloma venereum, hand-foot-and-mouth disease.

2. Acute rash

Monkeypox illness includes a progressively developing rash that usually starts on the face and then spreads elsewhere on the body. The rash can affect the mucous membranes in the mouth, tongue, and genitalia. The rash can also affect the palms of hands and soles of the feet. The rash can last 2 to 4 weeks and progresses through the following stages before falling off:

- macules
- papules
- vesicles
- pustules
- scabs

N.B. It is not necessary to obtain negative laboratory results for listed common causes of rash illness in order to classify a case as suspected.

3. Reported travel history includes regional, national, or international travel in the 21 days before symptom onset to any area where monkeypox may be reported.

Appendix 2: Regional Public Health contact information (for health professionals only)

- Fraser Health: 1-866-990-9941
- Interior Health: 1-866-457-5648
- Island Health
 - South Island: 1-866-665-6626
 - Central Island: 1-866-770-7798
 - North Island: 1-877-887-8835

- Northern Health:
 - Business hours: 250-645-3794
 - After business hours: 250-565-2000, press 7, ask for the MHO on call

- Vancouver Coastal Health:
 - Business hours: 1-855-675-3900
 - After business hours: 604-527-4893

Appendix 3: Additional resources on monkeypox

Information on clinical presentation, transmission, case management, diagnosis and testing, infection prevention & control, and treatment are available elsewhere. Here are some additional resources:

- BCCDC: www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/monkeypox
- BCCDC Public Health Laboratory: www.bccdc.ca/our-services/service-areas/bccdc-public-health-laboratory
- Health Canada's website: [Monkeypox for Health Professionals](#)
- Specific testing details for Monkeypox: www.elabhandbook.info/PHSA/Test/PrintPageWithMaster.aspx
- World Health Organization: [WHO monkeypox fact sheet](#)
- USA Centre for Disease Control: [Centre for Disease Control monkeypox information](#)
- United Kingdom: [UK: Guidance on monkeypox](#)