

# Monkeypox Key Facts



**Monkeypox is a disease caused by the monkeypox virus.**

**Monkeypox can make you sick including a rash or sores (pox), often with an earlier flu-like illness.**

**Monkeypox can spread to anyone through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact.**



## Symptoms

- Early flu-like symptoms of monkeypox can include fever, headache, muscle aches, backache, swollen lymph nodes, chills, and exhaustion
- Rash appears within 1 to 3 days (sometimes longer) after fever, often beginning on the face then spreading to other parts of the body
- Illness usually lasts 2–4 weeks



## Transmission

- Monkeypox can spread through:
  - Direct contact with monkeypox rash, sores or scabs
  - Contact with objects, clothing, bedding, towels, or surfaces used by someone with monkeypox
  - Respiratory droplets or oral fluids from a person with monkeypox
- Monkeypox can spread from the time symptoms start until all sores have healed, which can take several weeks



## Recent Clusters of Monkeypox

- Cases of monkeypox have been recently reported in several countries that don't normally have monkeypox activity, including the United States.
- The monkeypox virus is spreading mostly through close, intimate contact with someone who has monkeypox.



## Diagnosis & Treatment

- Healthcare providers should be alert for patients with rash illnesses consistent with monkeypox, regardless of gender or sexual orientation, particularly those with travel history or other risk factors
- There is no specific treatment for monkeypox, although antivirals developed for use in patients with smallpox may be beneficial



## Recommendations for the Public

- Risk to the general public is low
- Seek medical care immediately if you are concerned you have monkeypox
- Avoid close contact with sick people, including people with skin lesions or genital lesions



## For More Information

- Contact your healthcare provider with medical questions
- Visit [bit.ly/njmpx](https://bit.ly/njmpx)