Get to Know



How Can You Prevent MPox?

MPox can spread when a person:

- Handles materials, such as blankets, sheets clothes, or other laundry, that have been in contact with someone who has mpox.
- Touches a surface or material that has been in contact with rashes or bodily fluids of an infected person, such as a remote control for a TV (if a person with mpox has pox on their hands) or a toilet seat (if a person with mpox has wounds on their thighs or buttocks).
- Has direct contact with rashes, scabs or body fluids of a person with mpox.
- Has close contact with an infected person, via respiratory droplets.
- Has **sexual contact** with an infected person.
- Is pregnant and infected, they can spread the mpox virus to a fetus.
- There is close contact with an infected animal or person. (Mpox can be spread through bites, scratches, by eating wild game, or using products made of infected animal parts.)

How long does Mpox survive?

Per a study titled <u>Environmental Persistence of Monkeypox Virus on Surfaces in Household of Person with Travel-Associated Infection, Dallas, Texas, USA, 2021</u> the following was learned about Mpox survival rates, outside of the body:

- Mpox virus can live on surfaces for more than fifteen (15) days.
- Mpox virus survives on porous surfaces, such as blankets, sheets, and clothing, better than on nonporous surfaces, such as metals and plastics. However, live Mpox virus capable of causing infection has been found on both porous and nonporous surfaces at the fifteen (15) day mark, meaning it can survive for longer.
- Live Mpox virus was found on the mattress cover (bedding/porous surface), paper towels (porous surface), clothing (porous surface), and the coffee table (nonporous surface).
- Per the CDC, orthopox (mpox) could potentially survive in the home for weeks or even months. In general, the virus lives longer in dark, cool, and low-humidity environments, that have not been exposed to much sunlight.

Potential Places Mpox Virus Can Live



https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseasesconditions/infectious-diseases/expertanswers/monkeypox-faq/faq-20533608



How Can You Prevent MPox?



What can I do to prevent becoming infected with or spreading the mpox virus?

- Educate yourself about mpox.
- Know that the incubation period for mpox is LONG. From the time a person is exposed, to the time they show symptoms, it can be as long as 3 to 21 days.
- If you are high risk for becoming infected, get vaccinated
- Avoid close contact with people who have a rash that looks like mpox.
- Avoid handling clothes, sheets, blankets or other materials that have been in contact with an infected animal or person. When possible, have an infected person take care of their own washing and laundry in the home.
- Isolate people who have mpox from healthy people.
- Wash your hands well with soap and water after any contact with an infected person or animal.
- Avoid animals that may carry the virus.

Disinfecting - Cleaning After Monkeypox

• The Mpox virus is considered a Tier 1 virus, which means it can easily be killed with common household disinfectants like bleach or hydrogen peroxide.

Who Should Get Vaccinated?

*Guidance may be updated as the situation evolves. Currently the CDC recommends vaccination if you:

- Had known or suspected exposure to someone with mpox.
- Work with orthopoxviruses in a lab or are part of an orthopoxvirus and health care worker response team.
- Had a sex partner in the past 2 weeks who was diagnosed with mpox.
- Are a gay, bisexual, or other man who has sex with men, or are a transgender, nonbinary, or gender-diverse person who has had any of the following within the past 2 weeks: More than one sex partner' Sex at a commercial sex venue (like a sex club or bathhouse) or at event, venue, or in an area (city or county for example) where mpox transmission is occurring.
- Are a gay, bisexual, or other man who has sex with men or a transgender, nonbinary, or gender-diverse person who in the past 6 months has had any of the following: A new diagnosis of one or more sexually transmitted diseases (e.g., HIV, chancroid, chlamydia, gonorrhea, or syphilis); or more than one sex partner.
- In the past 6 months:
 - You had sex at a commercial sex venue (like a sex club or bathhouse).
 - You had sex at an event, venue, or in an area (city or county for example) where mpox transmission is occurring.
- Have a sex partner who identifies with any of the above scenarios.
- Anticipate experiencing any of the above scenarios. *Current as of January 2023

