



EMS Focus Webinar FAQ: Navigating Mpox - Latest Updates, Impact and Strategies for EMS Clinicians

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1. If Mpox is transmitted through multiple vectors like respiratory droplets, oral fluids, rashes/sores or objects, why is sexual transmission the most common vector?

Sexual contact includes direct skin-to-skin contact. Please see this link for more information:
<https://www.cdc.gov/mpox/causes/index.html>

2. What is a clade?

A clade is a group of viruses that share a common ancestral strain.

3. Where can we get vaccines? Primary Doctor?

JYNNEOS is now commercially available and can be found at major pharmacies and some healthcare facilities.

4. To clarify, is Mpox the same as Monkey Pox?

Monkeypox is the name of the virus. MPox is the name of the disease that it causes.

5. Vaccine - PEP and PrEP. What is PEP and PrEP?

PEP is post-exposure prophylaxis, and PrEP is pre-exposure prophylaxis, as it relates to the use of vaccines. If you are in a high-risk group and need protection from contracting the illness or getting infected with the virus before exposure, this would be considered pre-exposure prophylaxis. On the other hand, if you had close contact with a patient or a person with Mpox disease and were exposed to their potentially infectious bodily fluids, receiving the vaccine a day or two after that exposure would be considered post-exposure prophylaxis.

6. Is there data about the infection rate of healthcare providers treating patients with Mpox?

The infection rate is actually extremely low within the U.S., with only two healthcare workers known to have been infected. Domestically, the data is more consistent, but internationally, there is a lack of comprehensive case finding to determine what percentage of healthcare workers are affected. While we know healthcare workers are getting infected, we do not have sufficient information on what PPE they are using or the hierarchy of controls they are implementing. In regions like the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), infection prevention and control (IPC) practices are notably poor. The two known U.S. cases involved a healthcare worker who had a needle stick injury and another with a suspected breach in PPE.

7. How is MPOX affecting children?

The impact on children is minimal domestically, as the primary drivers of infection in the U.S. are men who have sex with men and other groups eligible for the Jynneos vaccine. However, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the transmission dynamics are different due to zoonotic spillover from various animal reservoirs. In the DRC, there are additional risk factors such as household transmission and poor sanitary conditions, which contribute to the spread of the disease in ways not typically seen in the U.S.