WHAT IS MONKEYPOX?

On August 4, 2022, the Department of Health and Human Services declared the monkeypox outbreak a public health emergency.

Monkeypox is a rare infection caused by a virus in the orthopoxvirus family. It is a viral zoonosis (a virus transmitted to humans from animals) with symptoms like smallpox but milder. People with monkeypox typically get a rash that may be located on or near the genitals, anus, and could be on other areas such as the hands, feet, chest, face, or mouth.

The rash can initially look like pimples or blisters and may be painful or itchy. Monkeypox is usually a self-limiting disease with symptoms lasting from 2 to 4 weeks. The monkeypox virus is rarely fatal. However, individuals that have weakened immune systems, history of eczema, undergoing pregnancy or breastfeeding, and children < 8 years of age maybe likely to get seriously ill or potentially die.



CerpassRx remains vigilant in reviewing all new and relevant information around monkeypox. We will partner with our clients and members to help address concerns and answer any questions. Additionally, we will be monitoring product availability, potential treatment options, and prescription metrics.

HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

Monkeypox can spread through close, intimate contact with someone who has the infection.



HOW TO STOP THE SPREAD OF MONKEYPOX

- 1. Avoid close, skin to skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like monkeypox.
- 2. Avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with the infection has used.
- 3. Wash your hands often.
- 4. Consult your healthcare provider to see if you should get vaccinated.

CDC recommends vaccination for people who have been exposed to monkeypox and people who may be more likely to get monkeypox. There are currently 2 vaccines with limited availability:

JYNNEOS is the preferred vaccine to protect against monkeypox. It is a two-dose, subcutaneous vaccine. It is indicated for the prevention of monkeypox in adults 18 years of age and older who are determined to be at high risk for monkeypox. It takes 14 days after getting the second dose of JYNNEOS for its immune protection to reach its maximum.

The ACAM2000 vaccine may be an alternative to JYNNEOS. ACAM2000 is a single-dose vaccine, and it takes 4 weeks after vaccination for its immune protection to reach its maximum. However, it has the potential for more side effects and adverse events than JYNNEOS. It is not recommended for people with severely weakened immune systems and several other conditions.

