

Monkeypox (MPX) Investigation in Exposed Healthcare Facilities (HCF)

August 30, 2022

Dear Colleagues:

As the MPX 2022 outbreak continues, Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) is making adjustments to operations in response to data and risk assessment. Up to now, MCDPH has reached out to HCF following identification of known MPX exposures to provide information regarding the exposure and instructions to conduct risk assessments of potentially exposed healthcare workers (HCW) in their organizations. There has been no evidence of MPX transmission in healthcare settings during this outbreak; most healthcare workers have been assessed to have no or low risk of MPX transmission. As a result, MCDPH will post guidance for HCF to evaluate their employees for MPX exposure on the [MCDPH monkeypox website](#) and prioritize investigations of the higher risk exposures.

When healthcare providers become aware of exposure to a MPX patient in their HCF they should:

- Identify and notify persons who were possibly exposed to monkeypox.
 - o Conduct an exposure risk assessment on each potentially exposed individual, per CDC guidance.
 - Please use the [CDC risk assessment for HCP with MPX exposures](#) to assist in identifying contacts, assessing their risk level & determining any healthcare facility actions indicated.
 - Information on the management of patients with a MPX exposure can be found on the [CDC's website](#).
 - o Direct exposed persons to get more information on MPX vaccine by completing the [MCDPH MPX vaccine interest form](#).
- Complete pre-shift health checks with all exposed staff through their surveillance period (21 days from the last known exposure).

MCDPH does not require reporting of exposed healthcare workers. If healthcare providers or facilities have questions regarding risk assessment and notification of exposed healthcare workers, they can contact MCDPH at 602-506-3747.

Exposed HCWs who remain asymptomatic may continue to work as long as there is a system in place to check for symptoms prior to their shift. HCWs, who are confirmed or probable cases of monkeypox, should be excluded from patient care activities for the full infectious timeframe (until rash has fully resolved, the scabs have fallen off, and a fresh layer of intact skin has formed).

Please let us know if questions emerge or if you require consultation on interpreting the guidance.



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