



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Frederick County Health Department

Barbara A. Brookmyer, M.D., M.P.H. ▪ Health Officer

**To: Frederick County Health Care Providers**  
**Date: Friday, June 10, 2022**  
**Re: Monkeypox Virus Clinical Considerations & Reporting**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state public health authorities are investigating confirmed and probable cases of monkeypox (in the *orthopoxvirus* genus) throughout multiple states. [Click here](#) to learn more. At this time, no Maryland cases have been confirmed; however, the Frederick County Health Department is monitoring the emerging public health issue and taking action for local public health preparedness.

If local clinicians identify patients with a rash that could be consistent with monkeypox, especially those with a recent travel history to central or west African countries, parts of Europe where monkeypox has been reported, or other areas reporting monkeypox cases, monkeypox should be considered in the differential diagnosis. Please note the following:

- The rash associated with monkeypox involves vesicles or pustules that are deep-seated, firm or hard, and well-circumscribed; the lesions may umbilicate or become confluent and progress over time to scabs
- Presenting symptoms typically include fever, chills, the distinctive rash, or new lymphadenopathy; however, onset of perianal or genital lesions in the absence of subjective fever has been reported
- The rash associated with monkeypox can be confused with other diseases that are encountered in clinical practice (e.g., secondary syphilis, herpes, chancroid, and varicella zoster)



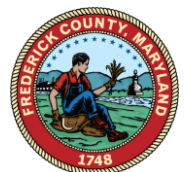
Dr. Miriam Dobson, DNP, RN,CPH ▪ Community Health Services Director

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Frederick County Health Department ▪ 350 Montevue Lane ▪ Frederick, MD 21702

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**Local clinicians should immediately report any suspected cases of monkeypox or residents who have had exposure to a probable/confirmed monkeypox case to the Frederick County Health Department as follows:**

- **Monday-Friday from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm:** Fax a completed Maryland State Form 1140 Morbidity Report Form to the FCHD Communicable Disease (CD) Department at (301) 600-1403 **AND** call the CD Office at (301) 600-3342.
- **After-Hours/Weekend reporting:** Call the Frederick County after hours emergency line at (301) 600-0312 to be connected to the health department official clinical staff member on call - please be prepared with the following details: *symptoms and date of onset; history of travel to/from endemic areas; history of any animal bites or scratches; any close contacts with any individuals known or suspected to have monkeypox; sexual history; and small pox vaccine*

**If you suspect monkeypox in a patient encounter, please take the following immediate actions in addition to notifying our health department:**

- Isolate the individual in a single-person room, utilizing a negative pressure room if possible and limit exposure to essential personnel
- Have the patient utilize source-control, including a well-fitting medical mask and cover any exposed body lesions with a sheet or gown
- Don PPE to include: eye protection (goggles/face shield), NIOSH-approved N95 or equivalent/higher-level respirator, gown, and gloves
- When ready to doff PPE after patient care, please do so prior to exiting patient room/anteroom
- Avoid direct contact with the patient's body fluids or open sores

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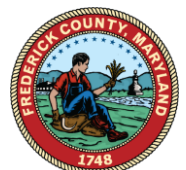
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Additionally:

1. Clinicians should conduct clinical testing for COVID-19, influenza, and streptococcal pharyngitis
2. Testing for orthopox virus is processed through the state laboratory and **MUST** have approval of the local and state health departments prior to specimen transport; positive orthopox specimens will be sent to CDC for monkeypox PCR
3. Maintain record (line list) of any other patients or workers in the healthcare setting who had exposure to the person with suspected monkeypox. Include record of what, if any, PPE may have been worn; extent of exposure/types of tasks performed with patient; and contact information

Consider the following tips for environmental cleaning/disinfection after patient care:

- Soiled linens or clothing should not be shaken or handled in a way that would aerosolize infectious particles
- Use EPA-registered healthcare disinfectants with a vaccinia claim. If unavailable, an alternate option is 10% bleach solution

We are closely monitoring the emerging situation and preparing informational resources for our residents. Thank you for your partnership in protecting the health of our community.

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