



ALERT FOR CLINICIANS

Monkeypox (MPX) vaccination & public health management update

KEY POINTS

- People can register their interest via [HealthyWA](#) to receive the MPX vaccine (JYNNEOS) at a state-run clinic or regional public health unit, or alternatively contact a vaccinating clinic.
- Confirmed and suspected MPX cases should be advised to stay at home, only leave for essential activities, maintain physical distancing & avoid high-risk settings.

Epidemiological situation

- As of 29 September 2022, there have been 68,017 reported cases of MPX globally in 106 countries. There has been a downward trend in the number of weekly reported MPX cases over the last 4 weeks.
- As of 29 September 2022, there have been 136 cases of MPX in Australia, with local transmission in Victoria and New South Wales.
- To date, there have been seven (7) cases of MPX in WA, all acquired overseas.

Vaccination program

- Clinicians are requested to encourage patients who meet the vaccination eligibility criteria below to book in at a vaccinating clinic or register their interest to receive the MPX vaccine online at https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/J_M/Monkeypox.

Current eligibility criteria:

Pre-exposure vaccination:

- Gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM):
 - with multiple sexual partners,
 - participating in group sex or attending sex on premises venues,
 - who have had a recent STI (last 12 months),
 - planning travel to a country experiencing a significant outbreak, with vaccination recommended 4-6 weeks prior to departure,
 - with HIV **or** on HIV PrEP,
 - with immunocompromised conditions, or
 - who are transgender, Aboriginal, experiencing homelessness, or have significant drug use.
- Sex workers who have sex with GBMSM.
- Healthcare workers who are highest risk for monkeypox; for example, working at sexual health clinics and administering vaccinations to individuals requiring post exposure vaccination.
- Laboratory workers handling live virus.

Post exposure vaccination: contacts of a case as determined by the Public Health Unit.

- Widespread vaccination is not currently recommended due to the very low risk of infection for the general population.
- For more information, refer to https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/J_M/Monkeypox

Public health management of suspected cases following testing

- People with suspected MPX should be instructed to stay at home until a negative result is received. They can leave home for essential activities only but should avoid high-risk settings (including schools, childcare, health care and aged care settings), crowded settings and high-risk persons.
- They should wear a mask, be diligent with hand hygiene, cover lesions where possible, abstain from sexual contact and maintain physical distancing.
- Refer to the updated [Monkeypox quick guide for primary healthcare workers](#).

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Access Clinician Alerts at ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/F_I/Health-alerts-infectious-diseases