

Mpox* Testing Decision Tree for Providers

Updated 11/28/22

Patient with concern for Mpox → Rash (with or without other symptoms) consistent with Mpox?¹

YES

NO

Remember to consider other etiologies for rash:

- STIs: including syphilis and herpes
- Chickenpox, scabies
- Molluscum contagiosum
- Hand foot and mouth, diaper rash
- Heat rash, bug bites, allergies

No lesion to test, assess 3-week exposure history²

High or Medium risk exposure history:
Contact LHD⁴ to assess for PEP³ and/or monitoring

Low/no risk exposure history:
Have patient return if rash develops

Assess 3-week exposure history²

High-risk exposure history examples:

- Contact with known Mpox case
- Multiple or anonymous sex partners, especially from a place/community where Mpox is circulating
- Other intimate contact or risky exposures in place where Mpox is circulating

- Notify local health department (LHD)⁴ so they can prepare for possible case
- Test at reference lab or with CDEpi approval at MTPHL**
- Patient should isolate pending test results
- Consider testing for other/concurrent STIs (e.g., HIV, syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia)
- If results are inconclusive, consult with PHD to consider re-testing

Medium-risk exposure history examples:

- Contact with rash of unknown etiology
- Sexual exposure, unsure of partner's history
- Skin-to-skin contact with others (e.g., sports, concerts, crowds)

- Discuss with LHD⁴ consider full exposure history and clinical picture (e.g., rectal pain+rash heightens clinical concern)
- Consider testing at reference lab, at provider's discretion
- Patient should isolate pending test results
- Consider testing for other etiologies for rash including STIs, if appropriate

Low/no risk exposure history:

- No sex/skin-to-skin contact with others
- Low-risk sex: monogamous
- No travel, or travel but no intimate contact or high-risk exposures
- Other etiology confirmed

- Consider discussing patient with LHD⁴
- Consider testing at reference lab, at provider's discretion
- Consider testing for other etiologies for rash

*Previously referred to as Monkeypox

** Testing at MTPHL run Tues/Thurs with epi approval

1. CDC Mpox Symptoms: <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/clinical-recognition.html>
2. Full list of exposure characteristics and risks: https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/monitoring.html#anchor_1660156583078
3. PEP and PEP++ Guidelines in the Vaccination section: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/cdepi/diseases/monkeypox>
4. Local Health Department (LHD) Contact information: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/FCSS/countytribalhealthdepts>