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## hMPXV DISEASE OUTBREAK DETERMINATION

Pursuant to my authority under ORS 743A.264(2), I have determined that an outbreak of viral illness, caused by hMPXV (human monkeypox virus), is occurring in Oregon. A disease outbreak is defined in state law as a significant or notable increase in the number of cases of a disease. ORS 431A.005.

On July 23, 2022, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern” (PHEIC) and on August 4, it was declared a public health emergency in the United States.

hMPXV is a type of Orthopoxvirus, with symptoms including fever, rash and swollen lymph nodes, and an estimated one percent case-fatality rate in endemic countries and the potential of higher rates among immunocompromised persons. hMPXV is transmitted to humans through close contact with an infected person or animal, or with material contaminated with the virus. hMPXV is then transmitted from one person to another by close contact with lesions, body fluids, respiratory droplets and contaminated materials such as bedding. Most infections in the current outbreak appear to be due to skin-to-skin contact.

As of today, 72 cases of hMPXV have been reported in Oregon, and with testing increasing those numbers are expected to rise. Currently there are no specific treatments approved for hMPXV infections. However, antivirals may be helpful in treating people with severe hMPXV disease or who are at risk for severe disease or complications from hMPXV.

Two vaccines are available for prevention of hMPXV. CDC is distributing the limited supply of Jynneos, which can be used to protect people with high-risk exposure to someone ill with hMPXV. Given as early as possible after exposure and before the appearance of rash, the vaccine can prevent hMPXV infection, reduce how long symptoms last, or make them less severe. This approach is known as post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), and it may help reduce the spread of hMPXV

in our communities. Oregon is also offering vaccination to people with factors that indicate recent exposure to a person with hMPXV (PEP+). Vaccine supplies are limited, so Oregon is using a strategy that prioritizes first doses to provide as much protection against hMPXV in the community as rapidly as possible.

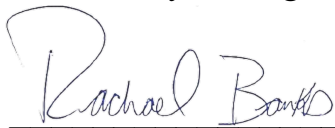
As Jynneos vaccine supply increases, Oregon will receive more doses at no cost from the federal government. There may be an administration fee for giving the vaccine, but no one will be refused the vaccine if they cannot pay or do not have insurance coverage.

Therefore, having determined there exists a disease outbreak and that vaccination is necessary to prevent the spread of hMPXV, the cost of vaccination administration for hMPXV shall be covered by insurers for their enrollees in accordance with ORS 743A.264 (2) and (3).

This determination is effective on the date it is signed and remains in effect until I find that the disease outbreak is at an end and issue an order terminating this determination.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 5th day of August 2022

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachael Banks". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Rachael Banks**  
Director of Oregon Public Health  
OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY

