

Title: Mpox transmission persists in Oregon: remember to test, treat and vaccinate

Colleagues,

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has identified an increase in [mpox](#) cases in recent months. Between July 20, 2023 and October 31, 2023, 17 cases of mpox have been reported to OHA and local public health authorities. Think mpox when evaluating patients with clinically compatible symptoms regardless of disclosed risk, vaccination status, or known community transmission. Symptoms of mpox may include genital, peri-anal, or oral sores, rash, proctitis, or pharyngitis. Testing patients with rashes, lesions, or symptoms clinically compatible with mpox should be considered part of comprehensive sexual health care. Testing for mpox is available through several commercial laboratories, including [Quest Diagnostics](#) and [LabCorp](#), as well as the [Oregon State Public Health Laboratory](#).

Vaccination against mpox with two doses of JYNNEOS remains a valuable tool for reducing the risk of mpox infection, but it does not eliminate it. Forty percent (six of fifteen) of the recent cases were among people fully vaccinated for mpox. Health care providers should test patients with potentially compatible symptoms for mpox, regardless of vaccination status. Please continue to vaccinate anyone who requests JYNNEOS according to OHA's JYNNEOS [vaccine guidance](#). You can request JYNNEOS vaccine through [OHA's request form](#). Vaccination can reduce risk of infection and [symptom severity](#).

Health care providers should consider tecovirimat (TPOXX) for mpox patients with or at higher risk for severe disease, [including people living with HIV who have CD4 counts < 200 cells/mm³ and/or who are not on anti-retroviral therapy](#). You may request TPOXX from OHA via this [order form](#) or your local public health authority. TPOXX is also additionally available via the Study of Tecovirimat for Human Mpox Virus ([STOMP](#)) for enrolled patients. STOMP is a National Institute National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases funded study on the efficacy of TPOXX to treat mpox.

Health care providers and clinical laboratories are required by law to report cases with positive mpox or orthopox PCR tests to the local public health authority (LPHA) immediately. Reporting of clinically diagnosed cases of mpox in advance of laboratory results is also appreciated. You can report mpox cases in the online portal available at healthoregon.org/howtoreport or by calling the OHA Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention on-call epidemiologist at 971-673-1111.