

Title: Mpox Caused by Human-to-Human Transmission of Clade I MPXV in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with Spread to Neighboring Countries

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Colleagues,

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Health Advisory](#) yesterday to provide additional information about the outbreak of mpox in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); the first health advisory about this outbreak was released in December 2023. The outbreak has expanded to include neighboring countries. This outbreak is associated with Clade I MPXV, which still has not been detected in the U.S. While the current threat is low, clinicians should be aware of the possibility of Clade I MPXV in travelers who have been in DRC or to any country sharing a border with DRC, including:

1. Republic of the Congo (ROC)
2. Angola
3. Zambia
4. Rwanda
5. Burundi
6. Uganda
7. South Sudan
8. Central African Republic (CAR)

If you have a patient with [mpox-like symptoms](#), which may include a diffuse rash and lymphadenopathy, *and* recent travel to DRC or the aforementioned countries (i.e., within 21 days of symptom onset):

1. [Collect a specimen](#) for clade-specific testing
2. Notify your [local public health authority](#) or the ACDP On-Call Epidemiologist

Clinicians or LPHAs should call the ACDP On-Call Epidemiologist at 971-673-1111, ext. 3 to coordinate clade-specific testing at CDC. Appropriate paperwork will need to be completed prior to shipment. CDC stipulates that all regulations should be followed for [packaging and transporting](#) specimens from suspect mpox cases as [Category B](#) for diagnostic testing.