

Mpox Workgroup Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023

1pm

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Mpox Grant Workplan Requirements
- Request for Applications Brainstorm
- Upcoming Events and Communications
- Questions, Next Steps

Mpox

- Rare but potentially dangerous virus, part of the same family of viruses as smallpox
- Total mpox cases in Wisconsin (July 1, 2022-April 1, 2023): 88
 - Majority of cases in white, non-Hispanic, cisgender men who identify as gay/bisexual
 - 40% of people diagnosed were Black
 - Only 1 new case identified since November 2022
 - 88% of people diagnosed did not require hospitalization
 - Approximately 20-30% of people diagnosed with mpox were also people living with HIV, and several had more severe symptoms

Mpox vaccine

- JYNNEOS
- Wisconsin has received 4454 vials of vaccine, with 1347 remaining (30%)- as of October 2022
- 90% of mpox vaccine doses were distributed to cisgender males in Wisconsin, 75% white
- Only 9% of vaccine doses were distributed to people who identified as Black
- Overall interest in vaccine has waned
- <https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p03313-202210.pdf>

CDC Mpox Grant

- CDC activated CDC-RFA-TP22-2201: Public Health Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement (henceforth referred to as TP22-2201) in response to the mpox outbreak in the US
- Awards are intended to address urgent needs and to implement mpox response-related activities including efforts to increase vaccine accessibility and uptake, case and cluster investigation, surveillance, testing, communication, education, and outreach
- TP22-2201 funds were distributed in 2 rounds-
 - Wisconsin did not receive any funds in round 1 (2022)
 - Wisconsin was awarded \$469,410 for round 2 (February 1, 2023-January 31, 2025)

CDC Mpox Grant

- TP22-2201 Round 1 Funds only went to states that reported high numbers of cases and greater need to vaccinate larger numbers of people
- All states and jurisdictions in the US are awarded funds in round 2 to ensure equitable efforts to increase vaccination coverage among populations at risk for mpox exposure are established, especially those that aim to reduce mpox vaccination disparities, and that state health departments are prepared to respond to future mpox outbreaks

Mpox report- 3/31/23

The U.S. could see a renewed surge of mpox infections even worse than last year, new federal modeling has concluded, based on data showing most American communities remain far short of vaccination rates needed to fend off outbreaks in at-risk groups.

With "moderate confidence," the CDC's modelers said in a report published Thursday that most parts of the country have a "greater than 35%" risk of mpox, formerly known as monkeypox, resurging over the coming months.

"It's not us saying get more people vaccinated because we think it's a good idea. We need to get more people vaccinated because we know there's a linear relationship between how many people are vaccinated and the chance of not having an outbreak," Dr. Demetre Daskalakis, deputy coordinator for the White House's mpox response, told CBS News on Thursday.

The CDC estimates that just 23% of the "at-risk population" for mpox, like men who have sex with men and people with multiple sex partners, have been fully vaccinated. Vaccination rates are in the single digits across many states.

Mpox Grant Activities

- Activities required by CDC for all jurisdictions receiving funding under TP22-2201:
 - Create a workgroup to manage activities at the health department level
 - Workgroup should include representation from HIV prevention, care, and surveillance, STI, immunization, other communicable disease, health education/communication, and emergency response
 - Increase vaccine accessibility and uptake
 - Sustain or expand ongoing engagement of community members affected by the current mpox outbreak to inform priorities and collaborate in response activities
 - Timely, effective case and cluster investigation and response (DIS)

Mpox Grant Activities

- Timely collection, entry, and reporting of all mpox case surveillance data to CDC, including data on race/ethnicity, gender identity, vaccination status, date, and route of administration, and exposure risks
- Implement creative approaches to saturate networks experiencing mpox transmission with vaccination and other relevant services (including HIV and STI testing and treatment/linkage to care)
- Initiate planning to transition mpox activities to become a routine component of sexual health and HIV clinical care with public health monitoring

Request for Applications (RFA) Process

- Minimally Competitive RFA- does not have to go through formal Chapter 16 procurement process but will be posted online
- Can conduct direct outreach to local health departments and community-based organizations to let them know about the funding opportunity

Request for Applications Process

- Tentative Timeline
 - Draft reviewed and ready to be posted by May 12
 - One month application deadline (May 15-June 15)
 - Application review period June 16-June 23
 - Funding decisions announced June 26
 - Performance period begins July 3
 - Performance period ends January 31, 2025 (total of 19 months)
- Up to 7 awards of \$50,140 each for 19-month period

Brainstorm

- What should be included in the RFA?
 - Requirements for applicants?
 - Expectations for grant activities/objectives for applicants?
 - Materials for submission
 - Budget
 - Workplan/Scope of Work
 - SMARTIE Objectives

Upcoming Events and Communications

- Chicago Events
 - Pride Events
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- How do we want to communicate to community about vaccination availability prior to events?

Workgroup Next Steps

- Review draft RFA and offer feedback (by May 3)
- Communications

- Meeting Frequency?