

# Monkeypox:

## What Clinicians Need To Know About Testing



### Signs and Symptoms

- Monkeypox is typically characterized by unexplained rash that develops into hard, round, fluid or pus-filled skin lesions. These lesions may umbilicate or become confluent and progress over time into scabs.
- Other symptoms include fever, chills, myalgia, headache, and lymphadenopathy. However, onset of perianal or genital lesions in the absence of subjective fever has been reported.
- While anyone can develop and spread this disease after being exposed to the virus, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that most cases of monkeypox in the U.S. have occurred among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM).
- **Monkeypox is a Category I reportable condition in Wisconsin. Clinicians must report suspected and confirmed monkeypox cases IMMEDIATELY by telephone to the patient's local health department.**



### Testing and Specimen Collection

- Patients **must have lesions** and symptoms consistent with monkeypox to be eligible for testing at any laboratory.
- Providers should use commercial or clinical laboratories including Aegis, Labcorp, Mayo Clinic, and Quest, and Sonic for routine monkeypox testing. **Testing in these labs does not require DHS pre-approval.**
- Free monkeypox testing will continue at the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene (WSLH) Monday through Friday for high priority patients with lesions and symptoms consistent with monkeypox that meet the following public health testing criteria:
  - Patient is uninsured or underinsured (for whom cost would be a barrier).
  - The patient's provider is unable to send specimens to one of the commercial labs conducting monkeypox testing.
  - Patient is a known contact to a monkeypox case.
  - Patient reported skin-to-skin contact with someone in a social network experiencing monkeypox activity; this includes men who have sex with men.
  - Other priority testing (such as patients from areas with confirmed cases of monkeypox) as authorized by DHS.

**As long as the patient meets one of these criteria, pre-approval from DHS is not needed to test at WSLH. Pre-approval from DHS is required for weekend testing at WSLH.**

- Providers should review testing submission and acceptable specimen types for the laboratory conducting their test.
- **Providers should advise any patient being tested for monkeypox to isolate at home until results are returned.**

# Monkeypox: Resources for Clinicians

## From DHS

Visit the following webpages for updates on monkeypox in Wisconsin.

- **Monkeypox website:** [www.dhs.wi.gov/disease/monkeypox.htm](http://www.dhs.wi.gov/disease/monkeypox.htm)
- **Outbreaks website:** [www.dhs.wi.gov/outbreaks/index/htm](http://www.dhs.wi.gov/outbreaks/index/htm)
- **Health Alert Messages:** [www.dhs.wi.gov/disease/han.htm](http://www.dhs.wi.gov/disease/han.htm)

## From CDC

- **COCA Call: What Clinicians Need to Know about Monkeypox in the United States and Other Countries:** [emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2022/callinfo\\_052422.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2022/callinfo_052422.asp)
- **Monkeypox Case Definition:** [www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/case-definition.html](http://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/case-definition.html)
- **Interim Guidance for the Treatment of Monkeypox:** [www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/treatment.html](http://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/treatment.html)
- **Clinician FAQs:** [www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/faq.html](http://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/faq.html)

## Testing Resources

- **WSLH:** [www.slh.wisc.edu/monkeypox-testing-information/](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/monkeypox-testing-information/)
- **MHDL:** [www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/case-definition.html](http://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/case-definition.html)
- **Labcorp:** [city.milwaukee.gov/ImageLibrary/Groups/healthAuthors/LAB/PDFs/MHDLMonkeypoxTestingInstructionsFinal6.30.20221.pdf](http://city.milwaukee.gov/ImageLibrary/Groups/healthAuthors/LAB/PDFs/MHDLMonkeypoxTestingInstructionsFinal6.30.20221.pdf)
- **May Clinic:** [news.mayocliniclabs.com/2022/07/11/mayo-clinic-laboratories-launches-monkeypox-test-to-increase-access-availability/](http://news.mayocliniclabs.com/2022/07/11/mayo-clinic-laboratories-launches-monkeypox-test-to-increase-access-availability/)
- **Quest:** [www.questdiagnostics.com/healthcare-professionals/about-our-tests/infectious-diseases/monkeypox](http://www.questdiagnostics.com/healthcare-professionals/about-our-tests/infectious-diseases/monkeypox)
- **Aegis:** [www.aegislabs.com/our-services/monkeypox/](http://www.aegislabs.com/our-services/monkeypox/)
- **Sonic:** [www.sonichealthcareusa.com/about-us/news/2022/07/sonic-healthcare-usa-announces-testing-availability-for-monkeypox/](http://www.sonichealthcareusa.com/about-us/news/2022/07/sonic-healthcare-usa-announces-testing-availability-for-monkeypox/)