



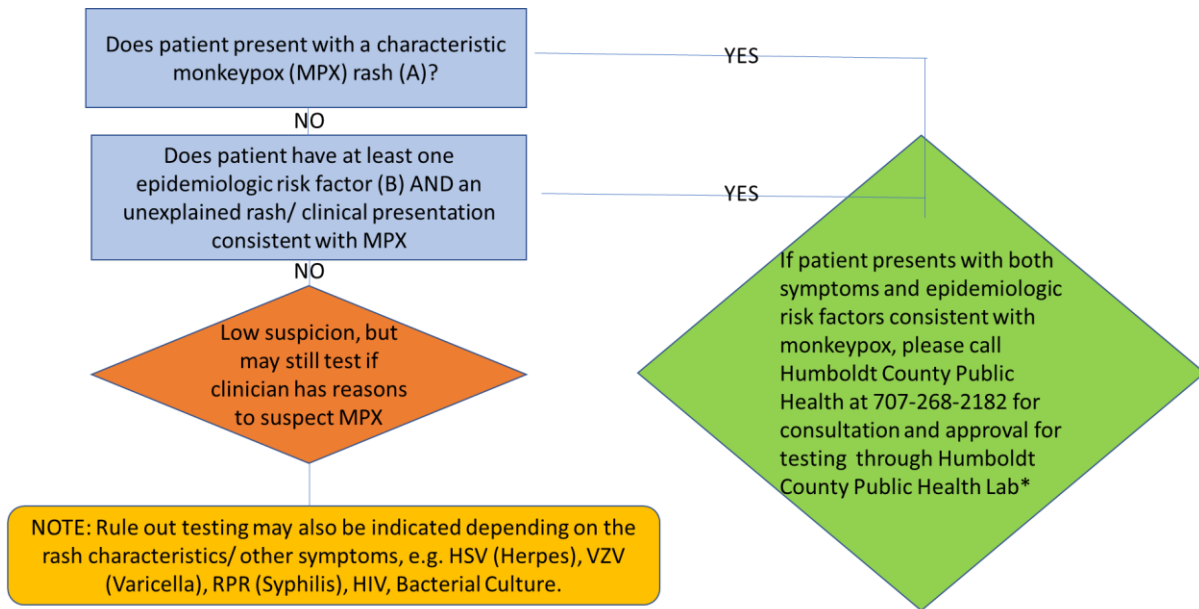
## HEALTH ALERT

### HUMBOLDT COUNTY PROVIDER GUIDANCE- LAB SAMPLING FOR SUSPECTED MONKEYPOX

#### STEP 1: ENSURE APPROPRIATE INFECTION CONTROL

- Healthcare providers should wear a mask and gloves when seeing any patient with a rash
  - If examining and/or sampling a rash suspicious for monkeypox**, add eye protection and a gown, with an N95 mask
- Patient should be masked and moved into a private room, if possible, as soon as possible.
  - Infection Control Precautions: Contact + Droplet + N95
  - No special air handling necessary
- Additional infection control guidance can be found on the CDC website:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/infection-control-healthcare.html>

#### STEP 2: CONDUCT INITIAL SCREENING



\*Testing resources through Humboldt County PH Lab are prioritized for highly probable cases of monkeypox based on CDC guidance and requires prior authorization by calling 707-268-2182. If lower suspicion for monkeypox exists, please consider testing through commercial lab options as well as other concurrent rule out testing.



<p><b><u>A. Characteristics of Monkeypox Rash:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deep-seated and well-circumscribed lesions, often with central umbilication</li> <li>• Lesion progression through sequential stages— macules, papules, vesicles, pustules, and scabs</li> <li>• Rash may affect the face, extremities, genital/perianal region, mucous membranes</li> <li>• Patients with other positive tests but characteristic MPX rash may still be considered for testing due to possibility of co-infection.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>B. Epidemiologic Risk Factors</u></b></p> <p>Within 21 days of illness onset:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports having contact with someone with a similar appearing rash or who received a diagnosis of confirmed or probable monkeypox</li> <li>• Had physical and/or sexual contact(s) within a social network experiencing monkeypox activity. This currently includes gay, bisexual, and other men have sex with other men (MSM), and trans people who have sex with men, particularly those with multiple and/or casual sexual partners</li> <li>• Traveled outside the US to a country with confirmed cases of monkeypox or where Monkeypox virus is endemic</li> </ul>
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### STEP 3: ORDER MONKEYPOX LAB

*Please note that if specimens are not ordered correctly and/or do not have the appropriate documentation, the lab will not be able to test them. Please read instructions carefully.*

#### **3A- FACILITY REQUESTING TESTING USING HUMBOLDT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH LAB**

- Complete Lab Requisition Form – *one form per pair of swabs aka one per lesion site*
  - Humboldt County Public Health Clinical/ Molecular Testing Forms are included in each Poxvirus collection kit
  - Complete a separate kit for each lesion sampled. Sample each site in duplicate so one sample can be sent on to the CDC for confirmatory testing if testing at HCPHL is positive.
  - Please print clearly and complete all demographic information including name, race and ethnicity, gender, and a contact phone number at a minimum.
  - Please provide insurance information if available for billing.
  - Collection date and time for the sample must also be included on the requisition.
  - Test Requested: Write MPX in the “Other” box
  - Specimen Source: check the “Swab/ Source” box and write in “lesion” and the location of the lesion

#### **3B – ANY FACILITY USING A COMMERCIAL LAB**

- Follow the ordering instructions provided by your lab partner (Labcorp, Quest, etc.)

#### **Commercial Laboratories currently testing for orthopoxvirus**

Facilities/providers using commercial laboratories will need to contact those labs to determine specimen collection and submission guidelines which will differ between labs. Result turn-around time and logistics of result return to submitting facilities/providers should also be coordinated between the facility and the commercial laboratory. The links below are provided as a starting point. Please contact the lab directly for updates or details about testing through commercial laboratories.

**CPT Code 87593:** Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); orthopoxvirus (e.g., monkeypox virus, cowpox virus, vaccinia virus), amplified probe technique, each.

<p><b>Quest Diagnostics</b> Test Code 12084</p>	<p><a href="https://www.questdiagnostics.com/healthcare-professionals/about-ourtests/infectious-diseases/monkeypox">https://www.questdiagnostics.com/healthcare-professionals/about-ourtests/infectious-diseases/monkeypox</a> <a href="https://testdirectory.questdiagnostics.com/test/test-detail/12084/monkeypox-virus-dna-qualitative-real-time-pcr?q=monkeypox&amp;cc=MASTER">https://testdirectory.questdiagnostics.com/test/test-detail/12084/monkeypox-virus-dna-qualitative-real-time-pcr?q=monkeypox&amp;cc=MASTER</a></p>
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<b>Labcorp</b> Test Code 140230	<a href="https://www.labcorp.com/infectious-disease/monkeypox">https://www.labcorp.com/infectious-disease/monkeypox</a> <a href="https://www.labcorp.com/tests/140230/monkeypox-orthopoxvirus-dna-pcr">https://www.labcorp.com/tests/140230/monkeypox-orthopoxvirus-dna-pcr</a>
<b>Aegis Sciences Corporation</b>	<a href="https://www.aegislabs.com/our-services/monkeypox/">https://www.aegislabs.com/our-services/monkeypox/</a>
<b>Sonic Healthcare</b>	<a href="https://www.sonicreferencelab.com/featured-testing/monkeypox/">https://www.sonicreferencelab.com/featured-testing/monkeypox/</a>
<b>Mayo Clinic Laboratories</b>	<a href="https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/">https://news.mayocliniclabs.com/</a>

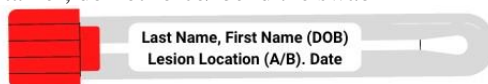
## STEP 4: COLLECT SPECIMENS

If submitting specimens to a specific commercial lab, instructions may be slightly different. Please follow their collection instructions. These instructions are specific to Humboldt County Public Health Lab

### PREFERRED: SWAB OF LESION:

- It must be a Dacron or nylon flocked swab (**calcium alginate or cotton swabs are inhibitory to PCR**)
  - **Do not clean lesions before swabbing as it reduces the amount of recoverable virus.**
  - Using a sterile swab, scrub the base of the lesion **vigorously** to ensure that cells from the lesion are collected
  - Place swab, (breaking off stick if necessary) into Viral Transport Media (VTM) or a sterile tube. **Duplicate swabs for each lesion must be collected and placed into separate collection tubes.**
  - Collect 2 swabs per lesion – choose up to two lesions for sampling. No need to swab every region.
    - Label with name, DOB, collection date, and unique name of the lesion -- e.g. “L thigh A” & “L thigh B”, “R thigh A” “R thigh B” to differentiate between the two swabs for each site
  - **Universal Transport Media (UTM) is not acceptable.**

Trim end of swab to fit into container, do not force/ bend the swab



### Acceptable Specimens:

- **Vesicle crust:** If lesions have crusted over, scabs are an acceptable specimen. Lift scab from skin using sterile implements (needle, scalpel, etc.) and transfer scab to a sterile container. **Do not place Vesicle/scabs in viral transport medium (VTM).**

### Handling Conditions:

- Refrigerate or freeze specimen within 1 hour of collection.
- Store refrigerated (2-8°C) if specimen will be tested within 72 hours of collection.
- Store frozen (≤ 20°C) if specimen if will not be tested within 72 hours of collection.

### Additional Information:

- Turn-around time: 24-72 hours
- Cost is \$90.00 for PCR



- After receipt of testing approval from Public Health Communicable Disease Team, please contact the lab immediately to arrange for testing.
  - After hours, call the Sherriff's Dispatch at 707-445-7251. You can ask the Sherriff's dispatcher to contact the Health Officer to discuss testing approval.
- The provider will be sent results when they are available. Provider is responsible for notifying patient and coordinating follow-up care, including treatment, as needed

**\*\*\*Please call the Humboldt County Public Health Laboratory if you have any questions at 707-268-2179.**

**!!Test collection is not performed at Humboldt County Public Health at this time. !! Do not direct patients to HCPH for test collection.**

## STEP 5: REVIEW ISOLATION INSTRUCTIONS WITH PATIENT

**ISOLATION** - A person with monkeypox is considered infectious until their lesions have scabbed over and a new layer of skin has formed over the area

- Do not leave the home except to seek medical care as needed o
  - Persons with extensive lesions that cannot be covered should isolate in a private room
- Limit contact with others, including household members and visitors to the home
  - Wear a surgical mask when around others
- Limit contact with pets
- Cover lesions as best as possible
- Do not share dishes and other eating utensils. It is not necessary for the infected person to use separate utensils if properly washed. Wash soiled dishes and eating utensils in a dishwasher or by hand with warm water and soap.
- Do not share linens (including bed), towels, or clothing with others while infectious
  - Laundry may be washed in a standard washing machine with warm water and soap
- Household disinfectants can be used to clean the house. No additional deep cleaning is necessary

### **CONTACTS**

*Who is considered a close contact?*

- A person with monkeypox is considered infectious starting on the day they have any symptoms
  - Symptoms might include fever, fatigue, aches, swollen lymph nodes, and rash
  - Any contact prior to symptom onset is not considered a monkeypox exposure
- Exposure situations may include:
  - Intimate contact
  - Skin-to-skin contact
  - Shared bed, towels, and/or clothing
  - Spending time with faces less than 6ft apart for more than 3hrs, without masks

*What should a person identified as a close contact do?*

- Contacts are eligible for post-exposure prophylaxis (vaccination to prevent infection) if they have not yet developed symptoms and are within 14 days of last contact
  - Vaccine works best if given within 4 days of exposure



- Contacts should monitor for symptoms for 21 days after last contact
  - If symptoms develop, they should self-isolate and follow up with their healthcare provider
- *We advise cases to notify their contacts and relay this information*

#### **RESULTS**

- Turnaround time from most testing facilities is 2-4 business days as of this writing
- The provider will be sent results when they are available. Provider is responsible for notifying patient and coordinating follow-up care, including treatment, as needed.
- Please submit a CMR for positive cases to CD confidential fax line at **707-445-7346**

**Contact Humboldt County Public Health Communicable Disease Provider Reporting line at 707-268-2182 for questions and guidance.**

