

MONKEYPOX

Information
regarding the
JYNNEOS vaccine

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- <https://ldh.la.gov/page/monkeypox>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox>

Monkeypox is a rash illness that is caused by infection with monkeypox virus. The JYNNEOS vaccine can help protect against monkeypox before exposure to the virus or reduce the risk of serious infection for those with monkeypox.

Transmission

Monkeypox spreads between people through direct contact with infectious body fluids or sores, and indirect contact with sores, such as through contaminated clothing or linens. Transmission also occurs through large respiratory droplets. Respiratory droplets generally cannot travel more than a few feet, so prolonged face-to-face contact is required. Monkeypox can spread during intimate contact between people, including during sex, as well as activities like kissing, cuddling, or touching parts of the body with monkeypox sores. **Monkeypox is NOT classified as a sexually transmitted infection.**

JYNNEOS vaccine for monkeypox

JYNNEOS is a vaccine indicated for the prevention of smallpox and monkeypox disease in adults 18 years of age and older determined to be at increased risk for smallpox or monkeypox infection. JYNNEOS is usually administered as a series of 2 injections, 4 weeks apart.

The vaccine contains vaccinia virus, which is a virus related to the monkeypox and smallpox viruses, that has been weakened, cannot copy itself in human cells, and cannot spread to other parts of the body or people. Experts believe the vaccine can help protect people against monkeypox when given before exposure to the virus, reduce the risk of infection if given within four days after exposure, and reduce the risk of serious illness if given within 14 days after exposure.

Who is currently eligible for the JYNNEOS vaccine?

CDC and LDH recommend vaccination for people who have been diagnosed with or exposed to monkeypox and people who are at higher risk of being exposed to monkeypox, including:

- People who have been identified by public health officials as a contact of someone with monkeypox
- People who may have been exposed to monkeypox as identified by public health officials
- People whose jobs may expose them to orthopoxviruses, such as:
 - Laboratory workers who perform testing for orthopoxviruses
 - Laboratory workers who handle cultures or animals with orthopoxviruses
 - Some designated healthcare or public health workers

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Eligibility for monkeypox vaccination may change as the outbreak evolves and based on vaccine supply. If you were exposed to monkeypox and would like to receive vaccine, please see a healthcare provider who can contact the Office of Public Health if vaccine is warranted.

What are the common side effects?

Side effects are common but usually mild. Most people have redness, swelling and pain where they got the shot. Tiredness, headache and muscle pain can also occur after vaccination.

Signs of a severe allergic reaction include hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness and weakness. If you think you are having a severe allergic reaction after leaving your vaccine provider, call 911 or go to the hospital. Call your health care provider if you have other side effects that concern you.

How well does the vaccine work?

Clinical trial data shows the vaccine should be effective in preventing monkeypox. We do not have real-world data on vaccine effectiveness and do not know how well the vaccine will prevent monkeypox in the current outbreak. For this reason, it is important to continue other prevention measures such as avoiding sex and other close physical contact with people who have symptoms of monkeypox.

Questions?

If you have any questions regarding monkeypox or the JYNNEOS vaccine, go to ldh.la.gov/monkeypox.

