

HAN subject: Health Alert Network (HAN) advisory | Mpox cluster in Utah

HAN number: 12022025

From: Utah DHHS

Intended audience: Local public health departments; ID physicians; clinical labs; emergency departments

Action steps

- **Local health departments:** Forward to hospitals, clinics, urgent care centers, emergency departments, and other clinics or associations in your jurisdiction.
- **Hospitals and clinics:** Forward to all health care providers who may be involved, including internists, infectious disease doctors, emergency department staff, family medicine clinics, sexual health clinics, dermatology clinics.

Key points

- Utah has identified 5 cases of **mpox clade II** in 2025, with a recent cluster detected at the end of November. These infections are all locally acquired, signaling active community transmission. Clinicians should be aware of the risk of mpox spread in Utah and take actions to protect their at-risk patients. All people diagnosed with mpox in Utah have been men who have sex with men. We encourage providers to specifically consider mpox in men with this exposure.

Recommendations for clinicians and public health practitioners

- Be alert for patients with risk behaviors (unprotected sexual encounters, most often MSM) who present with a new or unexplained rash (macular, papular, vesicular, or pustular).
 - Note that in current circulating strains, the rash may be localized (e.g., genital, anal, or oral regions) and may not always be accompanied by a prodromal fever or lymphadenopathy.
- Please [test](#) patients presenting with mpox-like symptoms or compatible lesions who also have a history of risk behaviors.
 - *Testing reminder:* Unroofing is generally not necessary but make sure the swab absorbs fluid/cells from the lesion base.

*The information in this message is intended to spread awareness among healthcare providers and other professionals across Utah. This is not intended for mass distribution or media purposes.

Official health alert network communication

- Strongly encourage [vaccination](#) for at-risk individuals. Assess vaccination status during patient encounters and refer eligible patients for the JYNNEOS vaccine immediately.
 - There is limited access to JYNNEOS because only a few providers carry the vaccine. We encourage providers who care for high-risk individuals to consider [ordering](#) a small amount of vaccine to have on hand.
 - Emphasize [risk reduction strategies](#) in conversations with patients who are not eligible for vaccination, or who do not present in time to receive the 2 recommended vaccine doses 28 days apart.

More information

Utah Epidemiology: <https://epi.utah.gov/>

Utah Mpox webpage: <https://epi.utah.gov/monkeypox/>

CDC Mpox webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/monkeypox/index.html>

DHHS disease reporting line: telephone (1-888-EPI-UTAH (374-8824)), email (reporting@utah.gov), or fax (801-538-9923).

Staying informed

[Register](#) to receive HANs from Utah DHHS

[Sign up](#) for CDC COCA calls and emails

[Visit](#) the Utah HAN website

[Sign up](#) for Project ECHO: Utah's Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes

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