

# Monkeypox Screening & Testing Checklist for Healthcare Providers

## PATIENT PRECAUTIONS

- Have suspect patient wear a mask and cover any exposed skin lesions prior to arrival
- Do not place suspect patient in general waiting area, bring patient directly back to exam room
- Place suspect patient directly into a closed, single-person room. Special air handling is not required.

## PATIENT SCREENING

Consider testing if the person has a rash/lesions and **in the last 21 days** has had:

- Direct, skin-to-skin contact with a person who has confirmed/suspected monkeypox
- Close, in-person contact with other men who have sex with men
- Traveled outside the US or in the US where there has been monkeypox noted
- Lymphadenopathy, fever, and fatigue
- Well-circumscribed, deep seated lesions that often have a central umbilication (can be in mucosal areas such as mouth and anogenital areas)

## HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL PRECAUTIONS

- Prior to seeing a suspect patient, healthcare personnel should don:
  - Disposable gown, gloves, eye protection, N95 or higher-level respirator mask
  - Pregnant or immune compromised staff should avoid interaction with suspect patients
- See **Sequence for Donning and Doffing Personal Protective Equipment**.



Providers should report any suspect cases to the NM Department of Health by calling the **24/7/365 EPIDEMIOLOGY HOTLINE** at:

**(505) 827-0006**

## TESTING DIRECTIONS FOR SLD

- The goal is to sample 2 to 3 lesions from 2 to 3 different locations on the body and/or lesions with differing appearances.
- Vigorously swab or scrub each lesion **with two** separate sterile, dry, polyester swabs (one for preliminary and one for confirmatory testing). **Do not use cotton swabs and do not swab more than one lesion with each swab.** You do not need to unroof the lesion.
- Each swab should each be placed in a separate dry container (such as sterile urine cup or tube).
- Do not add or store in viral or universal transport media (for SLD).
- Each lesion that is sampled requires a **separate test requisition form**.
- If you swab 3 lesions, you will have 6 swabs in 6 separate dry containers and 3 requisitions.
- Immediately refrigerate samples (2-8°C), and contact NMDOH at (505) 827-0006 for shipping instructions.

## PATIENT PRECAUTIONS

- Advise patients waiting for results to isolate at home, avoid contact with others, and monitor symptoms. People should wear a mask and cover lesions if they must be around others.
- If positive for monkeypox, refer patients to CDC's **Isolation and Prevention Practices for People with Monkeypox | Monkeypox | Poxvirus | CDC**

For more information, visit: [www.nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/mpv](http://www.nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/mpv)

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