

Mpox

Updated: September 14, 2023

Reviewed: September 14, 2023

On July 23, 2022, the World Health Organization declared mpox a global health emergency. Mpox virus is a member of the Poxviridae family (genus Orthopoxvirus). The first person identified in the current outbreak in the United States was confirmed in May 2022, and mpox was declared a public state of emergency in the United States on August 4, 2022. This serious emerging outbreak is currently more common among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men than the general population. Sporadic cases have been reported in children and pregnant women. To date, there are no definitive data that mpox differentially infects people with or without HIV. However, reports do suggest mpox could be an opportunistic infection in people with HIV. People with advanced HIV or who are not virologically suppressed with antiretroviral therapy can be at increased risk of severe disease related to mpox virus infection.

Pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis and antiviral treatments are available for people who are at increased risk of severe disease and are exposed to mpox or diagnosed with mpox virus infection. The first-line antiviral treatment tecovirimat (TPOXX) is effective in animal models in treating disease caused by orthopoxviruses and is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of smallpox in adults and children. [Tecovirimat](#) is available through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for compassionate use for mpox infection through an investigational drug protocol. TPOXX can affect metabolism via cytochrome P450 pathways and have some notable drug–drug interactions. Individuals on antiretrovirals and other medications may require drug dosing adjustments with concomitant TPOXX administration. More information can be found in the [Adult and Adolescent Antiretroviral Guidelines, Table 24b: Drug Interactions Between Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors and Other Drugs](#). An effective, FDA-approved live attenuated, non-replicating smallpox and mpox vaccine ([JYNNEOS](#)) is currently available for pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis in limited settings. Pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis can be considered for people at increased risk of mpox infection, including gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men and individuals with close contact exposure to a confirmed mpox case. Vaccination with JYNNEOS is considered safe for people with HIV. CDC has released [clinical guidance for prevention and treatment of mpox in immunocompromised people](#), including people with HIV.

Currently, the best source of information about management of mpox can be found on CDC’s [Clinical Guidance](#) webpage, which includes [clinical considerations for mpox in children and adolescents](#), as well as [mpox clinical care and treatment during pregnancy](#). Additional resources can be found on IDSA’s [Mpox](#) webpage.