



Mpox

Mpox Infections after Vaccination

Updated May 10, 2023

A cluster of mpox cases have been reported in the Chicago area, which means the virus is still spreading, and we need to continue to be alert. More than 50% of cases in the cluster have been in people who have been previously vaccinated. Getting vaccinated is still very important. No vaccine is 100% effective, and infections after vaccination are possible, but they may be milder and less likely to result in hospitalization.

What We Know

- Vaccination makes getting and spreading mpox less likely.
- Infections after any vaccination are possible. No vaccine is 100% effective.
- If you have a rash or other symptoms of mpox, you should get tested even if you have been vaccinated or had mpox.
- Getting vaccinated against mpox may help make the symptoms less severe and easier to manage.
- The vaccine may help protect you against severe infection, hospitalization, and death.
- CDC recommends getting vaccination [for those who are at risk](#).



What We Don't Know

- We don't know why people in this cluster of cases have been gotten mpox after vaccination.
- We don't know if immunity after vaccination has decreased in these cases or how long the vaccine protects against mpox infection.
- We don't know if the virus has changed.

What We Are Doing to Find Out

- We are conducting studies to determine how long immunity after vaccination lasts.



- We are looking at specimen samples from these patients to see if the virus has changed.
- We are working closely with our local and state partners to find out:
 - How the virus spread among these patients.
 - How many patients were vaccinated, if they were fully vaccinated, and when they were vaccinated.
- We are closely monitoring reports of people newly diagnosed with mpox after vaccination.



What Can You Do?

If mpox is in an area where you live or are traveling to:

- Make sure you are up to date on [mpox vaccination](#). Get both doses of the vaccine. It's never too late to get the second dose.
- Seek health care and get tested if you suspect you have a rash even if you have been previously vaccinated or had mpox. Pay attention to public health and community leaders for advice on how to [prevent mpox exposure](#), including potentially changing some parts of your sex life temporarily. Recommendations may include:
 - Short-term changes to your sex life to help limit the spread.
 - Limiting new or multiple sex partners
 - Avoiding sex in places that might be associated with mpox transmission
- Get up to date on your other [health checklist for the summer](#) including HIV and STI testing.

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