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The Authors Reply

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We appreciate the interest expressed by Arbel and colleagues in the results of our study examining the effectiveness of JYNNEOS vaccination against mpox. As we described in the article, we selected control patients according to vaccine distribution guidance,¹ and we stated that vaccine effectiveness might be underestimated because of the inherent limitations of the use of electronic health care data in selecting case and control patients. Although vaccine coverage among the control patients in our study was lower than a recent U.S. estimate (36.7% for one dose),² it is within the range of estimates reported in U.S. vaccine effectiveness studies.^{3,4} Vaccine coverage among the case patients in our study was also low, indicating that case and control patients were selected from the same source population.

We appreciate the use of sensitivity analyses to understand the way in which vaccine coverage might influence vaccine effectiveness. However, we think that a more complete assessment would involve adjusting vaccine coverage among both case and control patients on the basis of estimates from published vaccine-effectiveness studies that used similar populations and designs (i.e., case-control studies, in which case and control patients were selected from the same source population) and would also involve consideration of factors that influence vaccine effectiveness (e.g., geographic region, mpox incidence, and access to health care).

References

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The findings and conclusions in this letter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Since publication of their article, the authors report no further potential conflict of interest.

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