

**Monkeypox Guidance for Alameda County
Homeless Shelter and Services Providers
August 23, 2022**

<https://www.achch.org/monkeypox>

Strategy	What You Need to Know	How You Can Prepare or Help
<p>Stay informed about monkeypox and the current outbreak</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This outbreak is affecting many areas where monkeypox is not usually found. Cases in the Bay Area and throughout California are increasing and more cases are expected. ● Monkeypox spreads from person to person through sustained, direct contact with sores, scabs, or body fluids; contact with contaminated items, like linens; and respiratory droplets during prolonged face-to-face contact. Monkeypox can spread during intimate contact, including sex. It is NOT as easily spread as COVID. ● Anyone can get and spread monkeypox. But most cases are in men who self-identify as gay, bisexual, or who have sex with men (MSM). MSM with multiple sex partners are currently at greatest risk. ● Vaccine supply for people at highest risk for monkeypox (especially men who have sex with men) is still extremely limited. Check the Oakland LGBTQ Glenn Burke Center and the ACPHD monkeypox webpage for vaccine info, eligibility and availability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learn key concepts about monkeypox with Alameda County Monkeypox webpage. A good State of California Q&A document is here ● Homeless and congregate-specific guidance is available: CDC Website ● Guidance is subject to change as we learn more; refer to the California Department of Public Health website and CDPH homeless guidance; the CDC website and FAQ for the most current information. ● Posters and information on Monkeypox for staff and residents. ● Share resources with shelter staff.
<p>Rapidly identify symptomatic persons for diagnosis and treatment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The ACPHD Monkeypox webpage provides key information, including when to suspect monkeypox. Localized rashes in the mouth or around the genitals or anus might be only symptom and can look like a sexually transmitted infection. ● Homeless services providers should immediately refer suspected cases in shelters or congregate settings to their primary care provider or a hospital ED for diagnosis. Alameda County is currently working on Isolation resources for homeless residents not able to isolate on their own – Reach out immediately to the ACHCH program if you 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Connect symptomatic person to their own primary care provider clinic. Otherwise send to local hospital Emergency Department ASAP. Alameda Health System Highland ED 510-437-4559 ● Phone Health Care for the Homeless at 510-891-8950 (M-F 9-4pm) for guidance around a suspected or confirmed case in a shelter.

	have a suspected case.	
Screen residents to identify cases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alongside on-intake and daily COVID-19 symptom screening, begin asking for signs and symptoms of monkeypox. ● Anyone with symptoms of monkeypox, should see a health care provider for testing and treatment. Testing is only available through clinic access to special state laboratories. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop a response plan if monkeypox is suspected. ● If staff or clients do not have a healthcare provider, then facilitate evaluation at a primary care clinic or call ACHCH at 510-891-8950.
Implement infection control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shelter and congregate living facilities should follow cleaning and disinfection instructions and guidance for congregate settings. ● Pay particular attention to handling laundry: Soiled laundry should be gently and promptly placed in a laundry bag and not shaken. Linens can be washed using regular detergent and warm water. Laundry staff should use masks and gloves until wash cycle is completed. ● Frequently clean and disinfect bathrooms and shared surfaces. Make soap and water and hand sanitizer available to staff and residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review CDC home disinfection guidance here: ● Ensure access to PPE and cleaning supplies for staff (including laundry and cleaning staff). ● Ensure access to handwashing supplies, cleaning supplies, and disinfectants to all residents.
Isolate people with monkeypox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● People with monkeypox are contagious from when symptoms start until all sores have healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed. This can take 2–4 weeks. ● People diagnosed with monkeypox should isolate in a private room. Try to make a dedicated bathroom available. Call the ACHCH program ASAP to get information about isolation for a suspected or confirmed case of monkeypox. ● If leaving the isolation room or when separating from others is not possible, people with monkeypox should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● wear a well-fitting face mask, ● cover areas where rash or sores are present on their body ● wash their hands frequently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop a plan for where people with monkeypox will stay, how they will be cared for and monitored, including access to a dedicated bathroom. ● For staff isolating at home, refer to CDC guidance. ● Learn about isolation of people with monkeypox.

<p>Support contact tracing to identify and assess close contacts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● When a highly suspicious or confirmed case of monkeypox occur, the Public Health Department conducts contact tracing to identify, assess, and monitor close contacts. ● Close contacts should monitor their health, but do not need to stay home (quarantine). ● Close contacts may want to get a monkeypox vaccination/pre-exposure prophylaxis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Support the ACPHD’s contact tracing efforts to help identify and monitor close contacts; encourage people to cooperate. ● Provide information for people who are contacts.
<p>Treat patients to minimize severe disease</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are no specific treatments approved by FDA for monkeypox, but antivirals available through CDC (e.g., TPOXX - Tecovirimat) might help those at risk of severe illness. ● Healthcare providers can access treatment by coordinating with the Public Health Department monkeypox@acgov.org. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage patients to talk with their provider about treatment. ● Encourage providers to contact the ACPHD at monkeypox@acgov.org to access treatment.
<p>Vaccinate close contacts and high-risk groups to prevent infection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A 2-dose vaccine for postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) is available for known close contacts and, as supply allows, adults with a high risk of exposure, and current priority and strategy is focused on first-dose administration. ● The vaccine works best the sooner it is given; ideally, the first dose is given within 4 days of exposure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage prompt uptake of vaccine if recommended by the health department. ● Check the Oakland LGBTQ Glenn Burke Center and the ACPHD monkeypox webpage for vaccine info, eligibility and availability.
<p>Communicate the facts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communicate with staff and clients about monkeypox and how it spreads through close physical (usually sexual) contact. ● Stigma is harmful. It can create lost opportunities to detect and address infections in other populations and provide a false sense of security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Combat stigma by providing fact- based information and emphasizing. Refer to CDC’s Reducing Stigma website. ● Refer to Alameda County’s monkeypox webpage: https://acphd.org/commu nicable- disease/monkeypox/
<p>Find more information</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Alameda County Monkeypox Website ● CDC's Preventing Monkeypox Spread in Congregate Settings and CDC Monkeypox website <p style="text-align: center;">Call Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless 510-891-8950 or www.achch.org/monkeypox</p>	