



Monkeypox Update to Maryland HealthChoice Program

June 23, 2022

On June 16, 2022, the [Maryland Department of Health \(MDH\) state public health laboratory identified a presumptive human monkeypox virus infection in a Maryland resident](#). In response, MDH wants to thank Maryland providers for the attention being given to monkeypox and for their continued collaboration with the state and local health departments. MDH continues to urge all providers to remain vigilant for the possibility of human monkeypox virus infection in Maryland and to ensure that we have the capacity to identify possible cases, isolate, and test for the infection.

Testing Information

Orthopoxvirus testing is available at this time only at the MDH state public health laboratory. MDH will update providers if this situation changes. Testing at MDH requires prior approval from your local health department or MDH before specimen submission. Specimens submitted without prior approval cannot be tested. Please refer to the [Monkeypox Specimen Collection/Submission Guidance document](#) and [Monkeypox Testing Fillable request form](#).

Resources to Learn More about Monkeypox

Please share these resources with your provider networks and, where possible, please make the following resources available for patients and clients.

[MDH Monkeypox Webpage](#) (for all audiences)

MDH Fact Sheet: The Facts about Monkeypox [English](#) | [Spanish](#) (for patients and clients)

[CDC Clinician Monkeypox FAQs](#) (for providers)

Please direct questions to:
David Blythe, MD, MPH
State Epidemiologist and Director
Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak Response Bureau
Maryland Department of Health
ph: 410-767-6685
fax: 410-669-4215
email: david.blythe@maryland.gov