

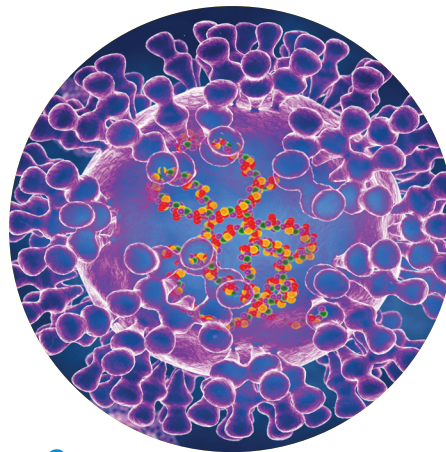
Monkeypox

On July 23, following the second meeting of the International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee to assess the ongoing monkeypox outbreak, the WHO, issued a statement declaring that the multi-country outbreak of monkeypox represents a public health emergency of international concern (or PHEIC). The understanding of this virus is still evolving, and this declaration makes clear that this situation requires an urgent global response.

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) is working closely with international, provincial and territorial partners on prevention and control activities aimed at containing the spread of monkeypox virus in Canada.¹

What is the monkeypox virus?

Monkeypox is a rare zoonotic disease caused by the monkeypox virus, which belongs to the *Orthopoxvirus* genus which also includes the virus that causes smallpox.² Monkeypox was first identified in 1958 when two outbreaks of a pox-like disease occurred in colonies of monkeys kept for research, hence the name “monkeypox.” However, monkeypox may also be harbored in rodents, as was the case in an outbreak in the U.S. in 2003 that was caused by infected pet prairie dogs imported from Africa.²



What are the symptoms of monkeypox?

Symptoms of monkeypox include fever, headache, swollen lymph nodes, back pain, muscle aches and fatigue. Lesions or a rash appear within 1–3 days of start of fever. The rash is usually concentrated on the face, palms, soles and genitals. Monkeypox is usually a self-limited disease with the symptoms lasting from 2 to 4 weeks.³ For people at high risk for serious outcomes or for those whose symptoms are serious, monkeypox may be treated with some of the antivirals developed to treat smallpox.⁴

How is monkeypox spread?

Monkeypox is spread through direct contact with virus from an infected animal or human, or materials contaminated with the virus. Transmission from an infected person may occur from prolonged close contact (including sexual contact), contact with body fluids or sores, or contact with materials, such as clothing or linen. Although less common, monkeypox can be spread from respiratory secretions on an infected person during prolonged face-to-face contact. Monkeypox can also be transmitted from infected mother to unborn fetus.⁵

Who is at risk?

Monkeypox is historically a rare disease and does not spread as easily as SARS-CoV-2 or other respiratory viral pathogens. The sudden appearance of monkeypox simultaneously in several non-endemic countries suggests that there may have been undetected transmission for some time as well as recent amplifying events.⁶ Most people are not at risk of serious disease from monkeypox infection, however, persons with compromised immune systems, pediatric patients, pregnant women or people with other concurrent infections may be at greater risk.⁴

Infection prevention and control

PHAC released on May 27, 2022 Interim guidance on infection prevention and control for suspect, probable or confirmed monkeypox within healthcare settings. Airborne, droplet, and contact precautions should be used for all suspect, probable, and confirmed cases of monkeypox. Precautions should be used when a patient presents with fever and vesicular/pustular rash (suspected case). Any lesions or respiratory secretions should be considered infectious material.⁷

Routine practices

Continue to follow routine practices including:

- Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA)
- Hand Hygiene
- Patient Placement
- Respiratory hygiene
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Injection and Medication Safety
- Cleaning and Disinfection Procedures
- Waste Management

1. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2022/07/remarks-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-july-27-2022.html>

2. <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/about.html>

3. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/monkeypox>

4. <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/treatment.html>

5. <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/transmission.html>

6. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2022/05/30/who-not-concerned-global-monkeypox-pandemic/9992496002/>

7. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/monkeypox/health-professionals/interim-guidance-infection-prevention-control-healthcare-settings.html>

8. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/emerging-viral-pathogens.html>

Surface disinfectants for Emerging Viral Pathogens (EVP)

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has activated its Emerging Viral Pathogens (EVP) Policy to allow product manufacturers to make off-label claims about effectiveness against the monkeypox virus. The EVP Policy is an important tool which allows for a quick way to address environmental surface disinfection for an emerging viral pathogen of public health concern.

These CloroxPro and Clorox Healthcare products have demonstrated effectiveness against viruses similar to the monkeypox virus on hard, nonporous surfaces and can be used against the monkeypox virus when used in accordance with the directions for use against the virus listed for each product in the table on hard, non-porous surface. Please reference [List of surface disinfectants for EVPs](#) for additional information.⁸

PRODUCT	DIN NO.	FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FOR USE (DFU) AND CONTACT TIME FOR THE ORGANISM BELOW
CloroxPro® Clorox® Germicidal Bleach	02483750	Rhinovirus (5 minutes)
CloroxPro® Clorox® Disinfecting Wipes	02492636	Rotavirus (4 minutes)
CloroxPro® Clorox® Clean-Up® Disinfecting Bleach Cleaner	02494019	Rhinovirus (30 seconds)
CloroxPro® Clorox® Disinfecting Bio Stain & Odour Remover	02456842	Norovirus (5 minutes)
CloroxPro® Clorox® Total 360® Disinfecting Cleaner	02460769	Adenovirus (2 minutes)
CloroxPro® Clorox® Anywhere® Daily Sanitizer & Disinfectant	02495716	Rhinovirus (5 minutes)
Clorox Healthcare™ Bleach Germicidal Wipes	02465671	Rhinovirus (1 minute)
Clorox Healthcare™ Germicidal Disinfecting Cleaner	02469278	Norovirus (1 minute)
Clorox Healthcare™ Fuzion® Cleaner Disinfectant	02459744	Rhinovirus (1 minute)
Clorox Healthcare™ Spore Defense™ Cleaner Disinfectant	02494663	Rhinovirus (1 minute)
Clorox Healthcare™ Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant Wipes	02406225	Rhinovirus (1 minute)
Clorox Healthcare™ Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner Disinfectant	02403528	Rhinovirus (1 minute)
Clorox Healthcare™ VersaSure® Cleaner Disinfectant Wipes	02473151	Norovirus (2 minutes)

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For product resources and implementation tools, contact your Clorox sales representative or
Call: 1-866-789-4973
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