



Winnebago County

Health Department

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First Case Of MPV In Winnebago County

WINNEBAGO COUNTY – The Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) is announcing the first case of MPV (monkeypox) in a resident of Winnebago County. The case is consistent with other MPV cases seen in the State of Illinois to date. The individual is isolated at home, recovering, and remains in contact with WCHD and their healthcare provider. The potential contacts of this case have been notified. The risk to Winnebago County residents remains low.

MPV does not spread easily between people. The majority of cases seen throughout Illinois and the United States have been spread through direct intimate contact with a rash or sore on someone infected with MPV. Activities that can spread MPV include kissing, sex, or other activities with skin-to-skin contact with someone who has the MPV virus. It can also spread through clothing, bedding/linens, or other materials used by a person infected with MPV, or through respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact.

MPV can be spread from when symptoms start until all sores have healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed. This can take several weeks. While most cases of MPV are self-limited lasting 2 to 4 weeks, severe cases can occur.

Preventing MPV:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid skin-to-skin contact with someone with MPV
- Don't share bedding, clothing, towels, personal items, or with someone with MPV
- Do not have sex if you or your sex partner(s) feel sick or have a rash or sores and do not kiss or touch each other's bodies while you are sick.
- Call your healthcare provider if you have new or unexplained rash, sores, or other MPV symptoms.

For more information, go to:

- <https://www.wchd.org/disease-control/monkeypox>
- <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/monkeypox.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/outbreak/us-outbreaks.html>

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