



Health Update:

First United States Clade I Mpox Case Diagnosed in California

November 22, 2024

Situational Update

On November 15th, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) confirmed the first clade I mpox case diagnosed in the United States. The individual had traveled recently to an [area where clade I is circulating](#), sought care in San Mateo County and is now isolating at home and recovering. No cases of clade I mpox have been reported in San Francisco (SF) and the risk to the public remains low. The SF Department of Public Health (SFDPH), alongside Bay Area, state, and federal partners, continues to monitor the situation around clade I mpox.

Clade I mpox is distinct from clade II mpox. The 2022 mpox outbreak in the United States, including in California, was due to clade II mpox and has led to 964 cases in SF. In contrast, an outbreak of clade I mpox in Central and Eastern Africa has been ongoing since 2023, with sporadic travel-associated cases reported in non-endemic countries. Additional travel-associated cases may continue to occur.

Recommendations for SF Clinicians

SF clinicians should follow [infection prevention and control](#) recommendations for all patients with mpox symptoms and have a heightened index of suspicion for clade I mpox in patients of any age or gender who present with [signs and symptoms consistent with mpox](#) AND who report either (1) recent international travel, or (2) sexual contact with someone who recently traveled internationally, particularly to [Central or Eastern Africa](#). **If clade I mpox is suspected, clinicians should follow instructions [from our prior guidance](#) to notify SFDPH immediately and collect and submit specimens for clade-specific testing.**

Persons planning travel to an [area where clade I is circulating](#) should receive mpox vaccination if they anticipate having sex with a new partner, sex at a sex club or bathhouse, sex in exchange for money or other trade, or sex in association with any large public event such as a festival ([CDC](#)).

More information can be found in the CDC and CDPH communications:

- CDPH Health Advisory: [First Clade I Mpox Case Confirmed in California and the United States in a Returning Traveler](#)
- CDC Health Update: [First Case of Clade I Mpox Diagnosed in the United States](#)

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