

# Health Update: Rise in Mpox Cases in San Francisco

## **August 14, 2025**

### **Situational Update**

Since late June 2025, 14 San Francisco residents have been diagnosed with mpox, which is an increase from an average of ~1 diagnosis per month from January-May 2025. A summer and fall increase in mpox cases has occurred in San Francisco since 2022, which may be associated with larger events and summer and fall gatherings.

In 2025, most mpox cases in SF have occurred <u>among individuals fully vaccinated with JYNNEOS</u>. These cases have typically been mild, with no signs of severe infection or need for hospitalization. While no vaccine is 100% effective, JYNNEOS continues to offer the best protection against the virus. Among persons who are fully vaccinated, JYNNEOS significantly reduces the likelihood of contracting mpox (<1% of fully vaccinated persons have been diagnosed with mpox) and helps prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death among people with mpox. Condom use and reducing the number of sexual partners can further decrease the risk of mpox transmission.

All mpox cases among SF residents have been clade II mpox; there have been no clade I mpox cases reported in San Francisco. For background information on clade I, please see the <u>August 2024 Health Update</u>.

#### **Recommendations for SF Clinicians**

- 1. **Maintain awareness** of potential mpox cases and <u>recognize</u> and <u>test suspected</u> lesions.
- 2. Continue to **recommend JYNNEOS vaccination** among persons at risk of exposure.
  - 1. The two doses are administered 28 days apart. If a person received 1 dose >28 days ago, the second dose can be administered immediately.
  - 2. Vaccination is <u>not recommended in persons who have previously been diagnosed with mpox</u> as infection likely confers immune protection.
  - 3. Booster doses are not recommended.
- Continue to counsel patients that vaccination with JYNNEOS reduces the risk of mpox infection and severe disease, and it is not 100% effective at preventing all disease.
   Condom use and reducing the number of sex partners are additional strategies to reduce risk.
- 4. There is no FDA-approved treatment for mpox infection. In most cases, <u>supportive</u> care and symptomatic treatment is sufficient.



- Previously, providers could refer patients diagnosed with mpox to the STOMP
   Trial, a clinical trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of tecovirimat (TPOXX) for
   mpox. The trial was stopped in November 2024 after an interim analysis showed
   that TPOXX, while safe, did not shorten the time to lesion resolution or reduce
   pain compared to placebo among adults with mild to moderate clade II mpox.
- 2. For patients with severe immunocompromise or patients at risk of severe disease, providers can consider use of TPOXX in combination with other therapeutics. TPOXX is available through an Expanded Access Investigational New Drug (EA-IND) protocol from CDC for patients who meet eligibility criteria. SFDPH encourages providers who are testing for mpox to register on the CDC TPOXX IND Registry to become a TPOXX prescriber in case needed. To request TPOXX for a patient who meets CDC eligibility criteria, contact SFDPH at 628-217-6688 from M-F 8 am 5 pm. After hours and weekends, call 628-217-6100 and follow instructions to page the on-call physician.
- 5. **Include** assessment of mpox risk and vaccination status at all sexual health visits for men, trans, or nonbinary people who have sex with men, trans, or nonbinary people.

#### Links/Additional Information:

- SFDPH Mpox Info and Guidance for Health Professionals: http://www.sf.gov/information--mpox-info-and-guidance-health-professionals
- SFDPH Mpox Vaccines, Testing, and Treatment: <a href="http://www.sf.gov/get-mpox-vaccines-testing-and-treatment">http://www.sf.gov/get-mpox-vaccines-testing-and-treatment</a>
- CDC Mpox: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/">http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/</a>
- CDC Mpox After Vaccination: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/vaccines/mpox-after-vaccination.html">http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/vaccines/mpox-after-vaccination.html</a>
- CDC Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of Vaccine for Mpox Prevention: http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/hcp/vaccine-considerations/vaccination-overview.html
- CAPTC Mpox Short Job Aid: <a href="https://www.californiaptc.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Mpox-Short-Job-Aid-CAPTC-Only-Revised-12.18.24\_FINAL.pdf">www.californiaptc.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Mpox-Short-Job-Aid-CAPTC-Only-Revised-12.18.24\_FINAL.pdf</a>
- CDC Clinical Considerations for Pain Management: http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/hcp/clinical-care/pain-management.html
- CDC Clinical Treatment of Mpox: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/hcp/clinical-care/index.html">http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/hcp/clinical-care/index.html</a>
- TPOXX IND Registry for Providers/Facilities: <a href="https://airc.cdc.gov/surveys/?s=N3KPDHHPAJARPR7X">https://airc.cdc.gov/surveys/?s=N3KPDHHPAJARPR7X</a>
- CDC TPOXX Eligibility: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/media/pdfs/2024/08/Tecovirimat-IND-Protocol-CDC-IRB.pdf">http://www.cdc.gov/mpox/media/pdfs/2024/08/Tecovirimat-IND-Protocol-CDC-IRB.pdf</a>
- SFDPH Clade I Mpox Health Update: <a href="media.api.sf.gov/documents/Health-Update-Outbreak-Clade-I-Mpox-Central-East-Africa-SFDPH-FINAL-8.21.24">media.api.sf.gov/documents/Health-Update-Outbreak-Clade-I-Mpox-Central-East-Africa-SFDPH-FINAL-8.21.24</a> WjcxZ0y.pdf