JYNNEOS Vaccine for Monkeypox: What You Need to Know

Monkeypox basics

- Monkeypox (MPX) is a disease caused by the monkeypox virus, an orthopoxvirus. Anyone can get MPX, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Symptoms include a rash or lesions that look like pimples or blisters, often in the anogenital area, and/or other parts of the body. Some people may also have a fever, swollen lymph nodes, headache, body aches, and fatigue.
- The time from getting exposed to monkeypox to onset of symptoms is usually 6 to 13 days (range of 5 to 21 days).
- People who have monkeypox can spread it to others from the time symptoms start until all sores have healed, scabs have fallen off, and a fresh layer of skin has fully formed (this can take 3 to 4 weeks).
- MPX is primarily spread through prolonged skin-to-skin contact, including intimate sexual contact.

JYNNEOS vaccine for monkeypox

- JYNNEOS is a vaccine licensed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for persons 18 years and older and authorized for emergency use for those under 18 years of age to prevent and/or decrease the risk of severe illness from a monkeypox infection for those at high risk for monkeypox infection.
- Persons exposed to monkeypox virus and who have not received a smallpox vaccine within the last three years, should consider getting vaccinated.
- JYNNEOS vaccine can help prevent a MPX infection if given within four days of a person first being exposed to MPX.
- The vaccine can be given 4 to 14 days after the first day of exposure to possibly reduce symptoms, but it may not prevent a MPX infection.
- The sooner you get the vaccine after exposure, the more likely it is to work.
- Your body will start to build protection in the days and weeks after your first vaccine dose, but you are not fully protected. People are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving a second dose of JYNNEOS.
- JYNNEOS is licensed as a series of two doses administered 28 days apart.
- JYNNEOS is administered into the fatty tissue of the upper arm (subcutaneously) and is authorized under emergency use to be also given between the layers of the skin on the forearm (intradermally) for people 18 years and older.
Clinical data has shown that a person will have good protection against MPX disease after receiving two doses of JYNNEOS vaccine by either the intradermal or subcutaneous route. We will learn more about how well this vaccine will prevent MPX in this current outbreak.

**What to expect after a monkeypox (JYNNEOS) vaccine**

- It is important to get the second dose on time, especially if you are immunocompromised.
- The most common reactions from the JYNNEOS vaccine are minor side effects such as soreness, redness, swelling, firmness, or itching where the shot was given (injection site). Minor redness, swelling and itching was more common when given intradermally and lasted several days or weeks.
- Some people may also have muscle pain, headache, nausea, tiredness, or fever/chills.
- As with any medicine, there is a very small chance of experiencing a severe allergic reaction. If you have any reaction or side effect to the first dose of vaccine, notify your healthcare provider and discuss the benefits and risk of getting the second dose.
- Refer to the [CDC: Vaccine Information Statement: Smallpox/Monkeypox Vaccine (JYNNEOS™): What You Need to Know](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/smallpox-monkeypox.pdf) given to you by your vaccinator.

Even if you’ve been vaccinated, it’s still possible that you can develop monkeypox if you are exposed. Continue to take precautions and be aware of the symptoms. If you develop new sores or flu-like symptoms, contact your health care provider, self-isolate, and get tested.

**After vaccination continue to take precautions**

People who get vaccinated (starting after the first dose) should continue to take steps to protect themselves from MPX infection.

- Avoid close, skin to skin contact and sex (oral, anal, vaginal) with anonymous individuals, multiple individuals, new intimate partners, people whose infection status is unknown or who refuse to disclose, those in the sex industry or with a history of sex work, or with a history of recent travel to areas that are part of the current MPX outbreak.
- Avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash or other monkeypox related symptoms.
- Do not touch the rash or scabs of a person with monkeypox.
- Do not kiss, hug, cuddle or have sex with someone with monkeypox.
- Do not share eating utensils, cups, toothbrushes, fetish gear, sex toys or touch the bedding, towels, or clothing of a person with monkeypox.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- If you have a new or unexplained rash or other symptoms, consult with a health care provider, and avoid sex or being intimate with anyone. Self-isolate until you have been checked out by a...
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health care provider and tested. When you visit a health care provider, wear a mask, and tell them about your concern for monkeypox.

- Visit CDC: Monkeypox Prevention (www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/prevention.html) for more information.

**Keep a record of your JYNNEOS vaccination**

- Save the vaccine document from your first dose. Take a photo of it to store on your phone.
- Participating providers send vaccination data to the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC). This allows any of your other health care providers that participate in MIIC to know you got your vaccine, and when. Review Data Privacy and MIIC Records (www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/miic/privacy/dataprivacy.html) for more information.

Visit About Monkeypox (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/monkeypox/basics.html) for information on symptoms, how it spreads, treatment, and free or low-cost STI testing sites in Minnesota. For additional information, visit: CDC: Monkeypox (www.cdc.gov/monkeypox).

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5414.