An outbreak of MPV in the United States has lead to an uptake of cases in Illinois.

## Monkeypox (MPV)
### Health Tips & Info

**What is it?**
Monkeypox, or MPV, is part of the same family of viruses that cause smallpox (not related to chickenpox).

**Who can get it?**
Anyone can get or pass on MPV. However, the current risk of getting MPV in the general public is very low.

### How is it spread?
- **Direct contact** with MPV rash, scabs, or bodily fluids* from someone with MPV.
- *Scientists continue to research how MPV spreads through various bodily fluids.
- **Touching objects, fabrics, and surfaces** that have been used by someone with MPV.
- **Prolonged face-to-face** or intimate skin-to-skin physical contact.
- A pregnant individual can also spread MPV to their unborn baby.

### How to Protect Yourself and Others from Monkeypox (MPV)
- **Avoid intimate contact** if you or your partner(s) have a new rash or sores, feel sick, or were recently exposed to MPV.
- Routinely **wash your hands** and **disinfect** any shared objects or fabrics.
- If eligible, get **vaccinated** if you have recently been exposed to MPV. Either talk to a trusted health care provider, or reach out to your **local health department**.
- Talk with your **trusted health care provider** about testing, pain management or treatment if you have MPV symptoms (or reach out to your **local health department**).

### What are MPV symptoms?
- **Rash with blisters** that may appear anywhere on the body
- **Fever**
- **Swollen lymph nodes**
- **Headaches**
- **Muscle and back aches**
- **Low energy**

### Is it MPV, COVID-19, or an STI?
Due to many similarities between MPV, COVID-19, and sexually transmitted infections (particularly syphilis), it is important to note some key differences. Head to this link or scan the QR code for a quick breakdown.

**Always** consult with a medical provider if you have any symptoms of MPV, COVID-19, or an STI.

For more info go to:

[dph.illinois.gov/mpv](dph.illinois.gov/mpv)
or use your phone's camera and scan the QR code to the right to be taken to IDPH's website on MPV.