

Supporting Material for Reported Monkeypox Cases

Update to York Region health care providers as of May 27, 2022

On May 20, 2022, we shared information on the first two cases of monkeypox reported in Canada and actions health care providers should take if monkeypox is suspected. Recently, Ontario's Ministry of Health shared additional information that can assist your practice and is attached to this memo.

The Ministry of Health urges all healthcare providers to be alert for patients presenting with symptoms consistent with monkeypox virus infection, especially if the patient has had travel or contact with a known case. Please do not limit concerns or suspicion for the diagnosis to men who report having sex with other men, as anyone with close personal contact with a person with monkeypox virus infection could be at risk for the disease.

Continue to consider the following differential diagnoses, which may be hard to distinguish from monkeypox – including syphilis, herpes simplex virus (HSV), chancroid, varicella zoster, and other common infections. For information on testing, specimen collection and handling, please see the [PHO website](#). Contact PHO Customer Service (416-235-6556/1-877-604-4567) or after hours the on-call Duty Officer (416-605-3113) to consult prior to sample collection and shipment.

If you see an individual who has symptoms compatible with monkeypox virus infection, **airborne and droplet/contact precautions** should be taken. A single room with negative air flow and a closed door is recommended in healthcare settings. If seeing an individual in an outpatient setting, a single room with a closed door is recommended.

Health care providers are recommended to wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including a fit-tested N95 respirator, eye protection, gloves and a gown, and the patient should wear a medical mask for source control.

For additional information on infection prevention measures, please see the attached resource from Public Health Ontario ***Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Recommendations for Monkeypox in Health Care Settings***.

While testing is pending, all suspected cases of monkeypox in whom hospitalization is not indicated should be self-isolating at home or in the community.

Contact York Region Public Health

Public Health will share further information as it becomes available. If you have any questions, contact York Region Public Health at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73588.

If you suspect a case of monkeypox, please contact:

- PHO and PHO Laboratory at 416-235-6556 and epir@oahpp.ca
- York Region Public Health – Infectious Diseases and Outbreak Management at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73588 (M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) or 905-953-6478 (outside of business hours) and CIDIntakeLine@york.ca.

