Health Advisory
Exposure Risk Assessment and Clinical Manifestation of Monkeypox
June 8, 2022

SUMMARY POINTS

- The characteristic prodrome may not be seen in the current monkeypox outbreak. Patients may present with or without fever and flu-like symptoms before the rash presents.
- The characteristic rash may not be seen. Rashes may not become disseminated and may be localized to one or few parts of the body.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to monitor the Monkeypox cases in several countries, including the United States. It is important to recognize that in the current Monkeypox outbreak individuals may present atypically and providers should be aware that rashes will likely not be generalized and may present subtly.

Patients typically present with a febrile prodrome 5-13 days after exposure which may include lymphadenopathy, malaise, headache, and muscle aches. Some recent cases have presented without the prodrome. The rash is also less likely to be disseminated in this current outbreak. Lesions may present in the genital and perianal region and may not spread.

A. Anal lesions

B. Genital lesions

C. Skin lesions

Days from symptom onset

Figure 1. Image shared from Epidemiological, clinical and virological characteristics of four cases of monkeypox support transmission through sexual contact, Italy, May 2022

Other Resources with photographs:
- 2022 Monkeypox: Information for Healthcare Professionals
- Monitoring People Who Have Been Exposed
- Monkeypox: Clinical Recognition
- Monkeypox Exposure Questionnaire
- Monkeypox infection presenting as genital rash, Australia, May 2022
- Epidemiological, clinical and virological characteristics of four cases of monkeypox support transmission through sexual contact, Italy, May 2022
- UKHSA latest findings into monkeypox outbreak