

Epi Update for Friday, October 14, 2022

CENTER FOR ACUTE DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY (CADE)
BUREAU OF HIV, STD, AND HEPATITIS

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Items for this week's Epi Update include

- Monkeypox update
- In the news: Flu off to an early start as CDC warns about potentially severe season
- Meeting announcements and training opportunities

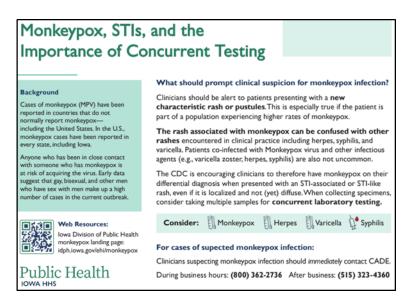
Monkeypox update

An ongoing outbreak of monkeypox has spread across many countries that don't normally report monkeypox, including the U.S. As of October 13, 72,874 cases have been identified in 109 countries. A total of 27,096 cases have been identified in the U.S., including 27 cases identified in lowa.

Men who have sex with men make up a high number of cases. However, anyone who has been in close contact with someone who has monkeypox is at risk. The virus is spreading mostly through close, intimate contact with someone who has monkeypox.

The rash associated with monkeypox involves vesicles or pustules that are deep-seated, firm or hard, and well circumscribed; the lesions may umbilicate or become confluent and progress over time to scabs. Presenting symptoms typically include fever, chills, distinctive rash, or new lymphadenopathy; however, onset of perianal or genital lesions in the absence of fever has been reported. The rash can be confused with other diseases (e.g., secondary syphilis, herpes, chancroid, and varicella zoster).

A high index of suspicion for monkeypox is warranted when evaluating people with a characteristic rash, particularly for men who report sexual contact with men and people reporting travel or contact to a monkeypox case. The features of monkeypox can easily be confused with sexually transmitted infections (STI). It is important to comprehensively evaluate patients presenting with genital or perianal ulcers for STIs. However, co-infections with monkeypox and STIs have been reported and presence of an STI does not rule out monkeypox.



Clinicians must report suspected monkeypox cases to IDPH as soon as monkeypox is suspected and prior to collecting specimens.

- Contact IDPH by calling 515-242-5935 during business hours or 515-323-4360 outside of business hours.
- Contact SHL by calling 319-335-4500 or 1-800-421-4692.

For more information about the ongoing monkeypox outbreak, visit www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/response/2022/index.html.

In the news: Flu off to an early start as CDC warns about potentially severe season www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/flu-early-start-cdc-warns-potentially-severe-season-rcna52115

Infographic: Get yourself and your family vaccinated



To view in full size, visit

www.cdc.gov/flu/images/resource-center/toolkit/social-media-toolkit/Take3 GetVaccinated Twitter.jpg.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

Want to improve your infection prevention and control skills? Registration is now open for lowa HHS's 2022 Virtual Infection Prevention and Control Conference. The conference will take place on Tuesday, November 8, beginning at 7:45 AM and ending at 5 PM. It is FREE and will be of particular interest for anyone responsible for Infection Prevention and Control programs in the healthcare setting. Nursing continuing education contact hours will be awarded. To register, visit https://go.iastate.edu/AS9S8T.

Have a healthy and happy week!

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology 800-362-2736

Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis 515-281-6801