AN UPDATE ON MONKEYPOX INFECTIONS IN NEW YORK FROM NY STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Monkeypox infections continue to be reported in areas that do not typically see new cases, including New York State.

UPDATE ON CASES
• According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as of now, 72 cases of monkeypox have been reported nationally. As of today, 16 cases have been identified in New York State: 15 cases in New York City, and one in Sullivan County.
• No deaths connected, even among the immunocompromised, have occurred with the outbreak in countries not normally affected by monkeypox.
• Symptoms often include a rash, blisters, or sores, as well as potential flu-like symptoms. Though monkeypox is not considered a sexually-transmitted infection (STI), because rashes are often located in the genital and/or anal region, it may be confused for common STIs. For additional information on presentation, please visit the CDC and NYSDOH pages below.
• Transmission occurs through skin-to-skin contact with lesions or sores and through contact with fabrics (clothes, bedding) and other items that have been used by an individual with monkeypox. Respiratory transmission can occur when people are in very close proximity for extended periods of time, such as during sex or kissing.

WHAT THE PUBLIC CAN DO:
• Stay up to date on the situation by following reputable media outlets and trusted members of the health community.
• If you are experiencing a new rash, or have been exposed to someone known to have monkeypox:
  o Call your healthcare provider to talk through what you are experiencing.
  o Isolate at home, keep your lesions covered up, and wear a mask to protect those around you. Avoid close contact with others, including intimate or sexual contact and large social gatherings.
  o Individuals who are ill and those caring for them should practice good hand hygiene, and use appropriate PPE – including masks, long sleeves and long pants, and disposable gloves.
  o Objects and surfaces which have been used by someone with monkeypox, including clothing and bedding, should not be shared with others. To disinfect surfaces, use an EPA-registered disinfectant; the EPA’s List Q contains registered disinfectants with an emerging viral pathogens claim.
  o Those who feel sick should also avoid contact with pets and other animals; other mammals may be susceptible to monkeypox.

ONLINE RESOURCES:
From the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH):
• Situation Update: https://www.health.ny.gov/.../communi.../zoonoses/monkeypox/
From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
• Homepage: https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/index.html
• Health Alert Network (HAN): Updated Case-Finding Guidance: https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2022/han00468.asp
From the National Coalition of STD Directors (NCSD):

• Monkeypox Command Center: https://www.ncsddc.org/resource/monkeypox-command-center/