



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
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Commissioner

2026 Health Advisory #4: Travel Associated Clade I Mpox Detected in New York City

Please distribute to all emergency medicine, infectious disease, internal medicine, family medicine, and pediatric medicine staff in your facility.

- The New York City Health Department has identified clade I mpox in a person with recent travel to Europe.
- The person was symptomatic, has received appropriate medical care, and has been isolating until full resolution of symptoms.
- This is the twelfth known clade I mpox case identified in the United States.
- At present, the risk of clade I mpox to the public is low.
- Maintain a low threshold for mpox testing and immediately call the Health Department's Provider Access Line at 866-692-3641 if someone is suspected of having clade I mpox.
- Encourage mpox vaccination for people with a potential risk of exposure.

March 13, 2026

The New York City (NYC) Health Department has identified clade I mpox in a person who recently traveled to Europe. Confirmatory testing was performed by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. Since testing, the individual has been recovering well and is isolating until symptoms have resolved. This is the first known clade I mpox case in NYC and the twelfth clade I mpox diagnosis in the United States.

Since the global mpox outbreak in 2022, clade II mpox has continued to circulate in NYC, with 398 reported cases in 2025 and 45 reported cases between January 1 and March 10, 2026.

Since 2024, most clade I mpox cases in the U.S. have been in people who recently traveled to areas associated with the [outbreak in Central and Eastern Africa](#), or who were linked to people who had traveled to those areas. In October 2025, the California Department of Public Health [reported](#) the first instances of community spread of clade I mpox in the U.S. There is no current evidence of community spread of clade I mpox in NYC.

Evidence suggests disease caused by clade I could be more severe than disease caused by clade II, making timely detection important.

Testing guidance for New York City:

- Testing remains important for clinical decision-making and surveillance of both clade I and clade II mpox. Maintain a low threshold for mpox testing given the mild signs and symptoms often associated with clade II mpox.
 - [Submit specimens](#) to a commercial or facility-based laboratory that has been approved to conduct mpox testing by New York State. Seek clade level testing if possible. Many commercial tests can detect clade II monkeypox virus (MPXV) DNA.
 - If testing at your practice is not feasible, the Health Department can arrange for testing, following the NYC Public Health Laboratory [specimen collection guidelines](#).
 - **For specimens that test positive for non-variola Orthopoxvirus (NVO) and negative for clade II MPXV DNA, immediately consult the provider access line.**
- **Immediately call the Provider Access Line at 866-692-3641 if clade I mpox is suspected.** The Health Department can arrange clade-specific testing. Such testing should be done for any individual who has a sore or skin lesion that can be swabbed and a history of international travel in the three weeks before symptom onset, close contact with an international traveler in the three weeks before symptom onset, or a history of close contact with a person with clade I mpox infection.

Treatment and prevention strategies, including vaccination, for clade I mpox are similar to those for clade II mpox. Detailed prevention, diagnostic, and clinical management guidance can be found [here](#). Clinical consultation for individual mpox cases continues to be provided by calling the Health Department's Provider Access Line.

Continue to encourage and offer mpox vaccination for people with a recent exposure or a potential risk of exposure, or refer them to vaccination sites, some of which are listed on the [NYC Health Map](#). The JYNNEOS mpox vaccine is expected to provide protection against both clade I and clade II mpox. The standard regimen for JYNNEOS is two doses administered subcutaneously 28 days apart. It is important to get two doses for maximum protection.

As always, we appreciate your continued collaboration in protecting the health of New Yorkers.