



JYNNEOS Vaccine for Mpox: Frequently Asked Questions

The JYNNEOS vaccine is recommended for people who may have recently been exposed to mpox (previously referred to as monkeypox) or may be exposed in the future.

How does the JYNNEOS vaccine work?

The JYNNEOS vaccine is approved for the prevention of mpox and smallpox. The vaccine contains vaccinia virus, a virus related to the mpox and smallpox viruses, that has been weakened, cannot copy itself in human cells, and cannot spread to other parts of the body or people. The vaccine cannot cause mpox, smallpox or vaccinia in the person getting vaccinated or those around them.

How is the vaccine given?

The vaccine can be given subcutaneously or intradermally based on the patient or provider's preference. Both types of administration require getting a shot, usually in the arm. People who are younger than age 18 can get only the vaccine subcutaneously. For more information about the intradermal administration of the JYNNEOS vaccine, visit on.nyc.gov/jynneos-intradermal.

What are common side effects of the vaccine?

Tiredness, headache and muscle pain can occur after vaccination. People may also have redness, swelling, soreness and itchiness at the injection site, which are more common with intradermal administration and tend to be worse and last longer.

How many doses do I need?

You should get two doses at least four weeks apart. You will start to build protection after your first dose but will not have full immunity from the vaccine until two weeks after your second dose.

How well does the vaccine work?

Preliminary data show JYNNEOS has helped prevent mpox in the current outbreak, but more studies are needed to understand how well the vaccine works. It is important to continue other prevention measures, such as avoiding sex with people who have mpox symptoms.

What should I do if I have a serious health problem after vaccination?

Signs of a severe allergic reaction include hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, and weakness. If you think you are having a severe allergic reaction, call **911** or go to the hospital. Call your health care provider if you have other side effects that concern you, or call **311** to be connected to care. Your provider is required to report serious adverse reactions to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), but you can also report at vaers.hhs.gov or by calling 800-822-7967. VAERS staff members do not give medical advice.

Can people with HIV, a weakened immune system or skin conditions get vaccinated?

Yes. JYNNEOS has been studied in people with HIV and atopic dermatitis (eczema), and no severe adverse reactions were identified. People with these conditions or a weakened immune system may have more

severe disease if infected with mpox, so it is important for them to get vaccinated if they are at risk of exposure. However, people with a weakened immune system may be less likely to build an effective immune response following vaccination, so it is important to continue other prevention measures even after vaccination.

Can people with a heart condition get vaccinated?

Clinical trials did not show an increased risk of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart) following vaccination with JYNNEOS. However, because there is an increased risk of myocarditis following a different type of vaccine approved for smallpox prevention, it is possible there is an increased risk of myocarditis from JYNNEOS. People who have three or more major risk factors for heart conditions, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol and smoking, should be aware of this possible risk.

Can people who are pregnant or breastfeeding get vaccinated?

Yes. There is limited information on the use of JYNNEOS in people who are pregnant or breastfeeding. Studies on animals have shown no evidence of harm to a developing fetus. Because the virus in the vaccine cannot copy itself in human cells, there is likely no risk to breastfed infants. People who were recently exposed to mpox should get vaccinated, regardless if they are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Who cannot get vaccinated?

People who had a severe allergic reaction to a prior dose of JYNNEOS should not get vaccinated. People who have had a severe allergic reaction to gentamycin or ciprofloxacin, or to chicken or egg protein and are currently avoiding exposure to all chicken or egg products should speak with their health care provider or a provider at the vaccination site before being vaccinated.

Should people who had mpox get vaccinated?

No. People who were diagnosed with mpox during this outbreak, which started in May 2022, should not get vaccinated at this time since they likely have some protection. Most people who were diagnosed with mpox after getting their first dose of the vaccine do not need a second dose. People who are immunocompromised should speak with their provider about whether a second dose is necessary.

Should people who previously received a smallpox vaccine get vaccinated?

People who were vaccinated against smallpox prior to this outbreak should get vaccinated if they were exposed to mpox or are otherwise at risk for mpox, as protection from the smallpox vaccine may lessen over time.

Can I get the vaccine at the same time as other vaccines?

The JYNNEOS vaccine may be given before, after or at the same time as most vaccines, including the flu and COVID-19 vaccines. However, people who are at increased risk of myocarditis, particularly males ages 12 to 39, may consider waiting four weeks to get a COVID-19 vaccine after getting the JYNNEOS vaccine due to the rare risk of myocarditis after COVID-19 vaccination. If you were recently exposed to mpox, you should not wait to get the JYNNEOS vaccine, even if you recently got a COVID-19 vaccine. Speak with your provider if you have questions about when to get vaccinated.

For more information, including about vaccine eligibility, visit nyc.gov/mpox. To find a vaccination site visit nyc.gov/vaccinefinder.