



NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE  
Ashwin Vasani, MD, PhD  
*Commissioner*

November 14, 2022

Dear Colleague,

We are writing to share several important updates about monkeypox (MPV) vaccination in New York City (NYC).

**MPV vaccination is strongly recommended for groups at [higher risk of exposure or severe MPV outcomes](#)**, such as men whose sex partners are men (cisgender or transgender), transgender women or gender nonconforming or nonbinary individuals; at-risk persons who have been diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection in the last six months; and people living with HIV or taking HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). However, the vaccine should be offered to anyone who considers themselves to be at risk for MPV through sex or other intimate contact.

**The NYC MPV vaccination effort is currently transitioning from city-operated mass vaccination sites to incorporation of MPV vaccination in routine sexual health and immunization services.** This transition comes as [MPV cases](#) in NYC have fallen from more than 70 per day in July to approximately 5 per day in October, and after NYC has administered [MPV vaccine](#) to more than 100,000 people. Providers who are already administering MPV vaccine at their facilities should focus on including MPV vaccination as part of their [routine sexual health services](#).

**Providers that offer sexual health and HIV services are encouraged to begin offering MPV vaccination at their facilities.** Interested providers should email [poxvax@health.nyc.gov](mailto:poxvax@health.nyc.gov) to begin the program enrollment process. Providers can administer MPV vaccine subcutaneously based on clinician or patient preference. Providers who do not offer MPV vaccination at their facilities can refer patients to NYC Vaccine Finder to locate a vaccination site, available at [vaccinefinder.nyc.gov](https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov).

New York State has temporarily designated [MPV as a sexually transmitted infection](#) to enable minors to receive MPV testing, treatment, and vaccination without parental or guardian consent. This designation is effective until January 3, 2023, but may be extended. Although parental consent is not required for MPV vaccination, reporting to the [Citywide Immunization Registry \(CIR\)](#) with identifying information remains [mandatory](#) within 14 days for all vaccinations administered to individuals 18 years of age and younger. Parents and guardians can request access to CIR records for their dependents; please counsel your patients

accordingly. Consider sharing the information sheet, [What Teens Need to Know About MPV](#), with your adolescent patients.

For individuals ages 19 years and older, reporting MPV vaccination to CIR now requires consent under New York State Public Health Law. We urge you to explain the value of CIR participation to all patients and to consider sharing the palm card, [The Citywide Immunization Registry and Your Privacy](#), for more information. Consent can be given verbally or in writing. An example of a written CIR consent form is available [here](#).

For more information for patients about MPV, visit [nyc.gov/mpv](http://nyc.gov/mpv). Information for providers can be found [here](#).

Thank you for continuing to promote and protect the health of New Yorkers through vaccination.

Sincerely,

Celia Quinn, MD, MPH  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Disease Control  
NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene