**Protection is Community Love**

**Get the Facts on Mpox Vaccination**

Fact: Mpox (formerly known as monkeypox) is a serious virus that can cause rash, fever, and other symptoms.

* Mpox can spread to anyone through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact.

Fact: Vaccines can help keep yourself, family, and community safe by stopping the spread of mpox.

* Vaccines are important in stopping the spread of mpox. People who are vaccinated for mpox should still [continue to avoid close, skin-to-skin contact](https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/mpox/prevention/protect-yourself.html) with someone who has mpox.

Fact: The CDC recommends getting a vaccine for people 18 and older who are at risk for mpox.

* People at risk for mpox include:
  + Gay, bisexual, Two Spirit, MSM (men who have sex with men), trans or gender diverse people who in the past 6 months have had one of the following:
    - A new diagnosis of more than one sexually transmitted disease
    - More than one sex partner
    - Sex at a commercial sex venue
    - Sex at a large public event where there are people who have mpox
  + Sexual partners of persons with the risks described in above
  + People who experience any of the above

Fact: People with untreated HIV are more likely to get severe cases of mpox.

* The mpox vaccine is safe for people with HIV. Get two doses of the mpox vaccine as soon as you can. If you don’t know your HIV status, get tested.

Fact: Two shots are better than one.

* JYNNEOS is a 2-dose vaccine that protects against mpox infections.
* People need to get both doses of the vaccine for the best protection against mpox, *unless you had a severe allergic reaction after getting your first dose of the JYNNEOS vaccine.*
* The second dose should be given 4 weeks after the first dose.

Fact: Already exposed to mpox? You can still get vaccinated.

* Get vaccinated as soon as possible after being exposed to someone with mpox (if exposed less than 14 days ago, ideally within 4 days of exposure).

Fact: You can call the shots.

* Reduce scarring by asking about how and where to get the mpox vaccine on your body, such as on the back of your upper arm.

Fact: Not everyone has side effects, but some people do.

* The most common side effects after the JYNNEOS vaccine are:
  + Pain, redness, and itching at the spot the vaccine is given
  + Fever, headache, tiredness, nausea, chills, and muscle aches
* These area signs that your immune system is responding, not that you are getting sick.

Fact: Mpox vaccines are free.

* Providers must give you the vaccine regardless of your ability to pay the administration fee. [Learn more and find an mpox vaccine site near you.](https://www.greaterthan.org/campaigns/mpox/)

Fact: Mpox vaccines are safe and effective.

* Over one million vaccine doses have been given in the US with no new or unexpected safety concerns and serious adverse events to the mpox vaccine are rare. People who have been vaccinated can still get mpox, [but vaccination may make illness less severe.](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36580416/)

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