

January 5, 2023

# Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) WEEKLY MPOX UPDATE

#### LATEST NUMBERS

- As of December 29, 2022:
  - 552 total Mpox cases (confirmed + presumed)
    - Information on criteria for presumed cases available here.
    - 7,161 doses and 3,436 second doses have been administered.
- Data on Mpox cases and vaccine distribution, with demographic characteristics, are updated here.
  - The Health Department, as part of its goal to be as transparent as possible, is one of the first jurisdictions in the country to report demographics on both people who have monkeypox and vaccine recipients.
  - More detail on this dashboard is available at: <u>https://bit.ly/MPXDash</u>

## LATEST NEWS

- Get your second dose to be fully protected
  - Mpox infections are very low and the outbreak has slowed, but it is still important to get your second dose to be fully protected from this virus and any future outbreaks.
  - To learn more, find a walk-up vaccine or to make an appointment, call the health department at (215) 685-5488 or learn more about where to get a mpox vaccine <u>here</u>.
- Emergency declaration set to expire on January 31, 2023
  - Due to the low number of cases, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services does not expect to renew the mpox emergency declaration when it expires at the end of the month.
  - More information available <u>here</u> and information on national case rates available <u>here</u>.
- Mpox is the new name for the monkeypox disease
  - The World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended the use of mpox when referencing the monkeypox disease.
    - Both mpox and monkeypox will be used for 1 year while mpox is being phased in.
    - The aim of this change is to mitigate racist and stigmatizing language that has impacted people most vulnerable to the disease.
    - The change involved consultation with experts, jurisdictions and the general public.
    - Read the WHO press release <u>here</u>.
  - PDPH has adopted this change and updated all materials and communications to mpox.
- Expanded vaccine eligibility: Anyone at risk can now get an mpox vaccine.
  - On November 4, 2022, PDPH issued a <u>health update</u> stating any patient who feels they are at risk for coming into contact with mpox can now be vaccinated.
- They do not need to meet any further eligibility criteria.
  - Read the PDPH blog post <u>here</u>.

## **CURRENT VACCINE AVAILABILITY**

- Mpox vaccines are available through a network of health centers, community providers, and pharmacies such as:
  - <u>Select City Health Center Annexes</u>
  - <u>Select RiteAid locations</u>
  - Philadelphia FIGHT
  - <u>Bebashi</u>
  - <u>Mazzoni</u>
- Upcoming pop-up clinics:
  - Saturday, January 7, 2023 from 6pm 9pm

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- At the annual Kwanza Collaborative sponsored and organized by Philadelphia Black Pride.
- Located at the Philadelphia Ethical Society: 1906 Rittenhouse Square, 19103
- Saturday, February 4, 2023, from 8pm 11pm
  - Located at the Level Up Bar and Lounge: 1330 Walnut St, 19107
- To learn more, find a walk-up vaccine or to make an appointment, call the health department at (215) 685-5488 or learn more about where to get a mpox vaccine <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.
- See the <u>attached flyer</u> for more information on where to get a vaccine.

#### **CURRENT VACCINATION AND CONTAINMENT RESOURCES**

- Reach out and connect
  - Reach out to friends and contacts to get the emotional and logistical support you need to deal with this virus.
  - Visit <u>www.healthymindsphilly.org</u>, for ideas, screenings, trainings, resources, and more to support your well-being while dealing with this virus.
- Call the PDPH Center at 215-685-5488 for any possible or known exposure to Monkeypox
  - The call center will ask questions to determine risk of exposure and eligibility to be vaccinated.
  - The call center can make appointments for eligible residents to get a Monkeypox vaccine and provide guidance on quarantine, isolation, and safety following exposure.
  - Up to Date Guidance Material
- Find the latest flyers, brochures, and other educational materials here and here.
  - Translated materials available.
  - For free printed copies, please contact Rainy.Paulino@phila.gov.
- The latest from the CDC
  - Visit the CDC <u>Monkeypox Webpage</u> for the latest updates on guidance and considerations for healthcare and service providers.
  - The CDC published <u>this new resource</u> on reducing stigma in communication and community engagement for the Monkeypox response and more.
- The latest from PDPH
  - Visit the City's Monkeypox site: <u>https://www.phila.gov/monkeypox</u>
  - Find the latest updates, information on vaccine and testing and the data dashboard.
    - Includes frequently asked questions in Spanish and English.

## LATEST ADVOCACY EFFORTS FOR AN EQUITABLE RESPONSE

- To decrease barriers to vaccine access, PDPH has:
  - Expanded vaccine eligibility to include anyone who thinks they are at risk.
  - Opened walked up clinics. See the attached flyer for more details.
  - Publicly promoted vaccine being available at select Rite Aid pharmacy locations.
  - PDPH has awarded funding to 8 local partners.
    - Build an equitable and accessible monkeypox vaccination network across the city of Philadelphia that serves people who are at high risk for infection, particularly persons in under-vaccinated demographic groups.
    - Create vaccine access points in geographic areas and for communities that are at high risk for monkeypox from under-vaccinated demographic groups.
    - Direct monkeypox vaccination outreach to Philadelphia residents who are at high risk for monkeypox but may be harder to reach.
    - More information available <u>here</u>.
- PDPH is attending relevant in-person and virtual events to offer current information.
  - If you are interested in PDPH attending your event, please email us at publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov to discuss.



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- The Ballroom Outreach Working Group continues to meet quarterly to learn about needs related to overall health and wellness, including sexual health and to discuss survey distribution.
- PDPH meets monthly with the Community Advisory Group. The meeting is to hear concerns, ask questions and collaborate with community members and leaders to respond to the outbreak.
  - The Health Department is working to build relationships with organizations and businesses that serve persons at high-risk for mpox, that would like to collaborate with PDPH to host vaccination clinics and/or expand outreach efforts.
  - Please reach out if you would like to connect or offer suggestions: <u>publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov</u>

## **STAY CONNECTED**

- Please contact us with feedback and suggestions for topics you would find useful in this weekly newsletter or how we can better reach communities at risk of exposure to Monkeypox.
- This newsletter is produced by the Public Health Preparedness Program. To sign up, unsubscribe, or comment, email publichealthpreparedness@phila.gov.

Be safe,

Philadelphia Department of Public Health