Mpox Update

Update to York Region Health Care Professionals as of November 24, 2026

York Region Public Health (YRPH) is alerting health care professionals to a recent increase in mpox cases in York Region. Over the past six weeks, YRPH investigated five confirmed mpox clade Ib cases (all unvaccinated), representing the first mpox cases reported in York Region in 2026. In previous years, the small number of mpox cases reported in York Region were identified as clade IIb.

While overall case counts remain low, the recent increase in cases in York Region highlights the importance of considering mpox in patients presenting compatible signs and symptoms, particularly in individuals at increased risk of exposure. Similar increases have been reported across Ontario, including in Toronto, where Toronto Public Health is investigating a recent rise in cases.

As with mpox clade IIb, cases of clade Ib in Canada have primarily been reported among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men (gbMSM). National surveillance data indicate clade Ib and clade IIb continue to co-circulate, with the proportion of clade Ib cases increasing over time.

Health care professionals are reminded to:

- Keep mpox on your differential diagnosis when evaluating patients presenting with compatible signs and symptoms, and assess relevant exposure, sexual and travel history
    - Refer to PHO's Monkeypox Virus Test Information Sheet for current guidance on testing, specimen collection and submission
- Counsel eligible individuals at risk of exposure on prevention strategies, including receiving two doses of Imvamune® as pre-exposure vaccination
    - NACI recommends two doses of Imvamune®, given at least 28 days apart, for individuals at increased risk of mpox exposure. Current evidence suggests a two-dose series is highly effective against both clade IIb and clade Ib
    - Eligible individuals may visit a YRPH Sexual Health clinic for mpox vaccination. Appointments can be booked by calling 1-800-361-5653, then pressing “1”
- Follow recommended IPAC measures when interacting with patients with suspected, probable, or confirmed mpox infection

- Consider STI and HIV screening for patients suspected of acquiring mpox through sexual contact
- Connect individuals with severe symptoms to treatment. Detailed information on the use of TPoxx®, including eligibility criteria, is available on the Ministry of Health's Mpox Antiviral Guidance for Health Care Providers

Reporting Cases

Report all suspected or confirmed cases of mpox to YRPH. Cases can be reported through the following:

- During regular business hours (Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) call 1-877-464-9675 ext. 73588
- Outside of regular business hours (including statutory holidays), call 905-953-6478

Resources

- YRPH:
  - For health care professionals: Mpox Information for Health Professionals
  - For patients/general public: york.ca/Mpox
- PHAC: Mpox (monkeypox): For health professionals

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