



# Health Alert



City of Chicago  
Brandon Johnson, Mayor

[www.chicagohan.org](http://www.chicagohan.org)

Chicago Department of Public Health  
Fikirte Wagaw MPH, Acting Commissioner

## ***Mpox Provider Update:***

### ***Clade I Mpox identified in Chicago resident without recent travel***

**June 23, 2026**

#### **Key Messages**

- The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) is reporting a second confirmed case of clade I mpox in Chicago, IL. The first case occurred in 2025 and was associated with international travel. This second case, which is unrelated to the first case, reports no international travel. As of June 2026, there have now been more than 20 clade I mpox cases reported in the U.S. Increases in clade I community transmission in Western Europe and the US, primarily impacting communities of gay and bisexual men, and other men who have sex with men, as well as their social networks in 2026 suggest that additional clade I mpox cases might be expected in Chicago. As of June 18, 2026, in total, 11 mpox cases have been reported to CDPH in 2026.
- **Clinicians should ensure that those populations at risk have received 2 doses of the mpox vaccine, which remains effective against Clade I virus. To request vaccine please visit [2026 Mpox Vaccination Request Form](#).**
- CDPH continues to conduct case investigations and contact tracing for all persons diagnosed with mpox.
- CDPH encourages providers to remain vigilant for clade I mpox importation in those with:
  - a) compatible signs and symptoms and who in the prior 21 days had reported international travel from [areas with clade I mpox transmission](#), or
  - b) local travel from areas with increased clade I mpox transmission, or
  - c) close contact with someone who recently traveled to those areas or had intimate contact with a clade I mpox case.
- All suspected and confirmed mpox cases should be reported within 24 hrs. Report via the Illinois Disease Surveillance System (IDSS) or please call 311 to speak to a CDPH Medical Director (or 312-744-5000 from outside of Chicago).

#### **Background**

Chicago has not experienced an outbreak of mpox since the fall of 2025; however, mpox continues to spread at low levels locally, throughout [the U.S. and the world](#).

Between January 1, 2026 - June 18, 2026, 11 cases of mpox have been reported to the Chicago

Department of Public Health (CDPH) one of which was confirmed to be clade I mpox. All reported cases were among males and the median age was 43 years old (range: 24-55); 37% of the cases (4 persons) were among Latino persons, followed 27% other or unknown, non-Latino. 37% of cases are among people living with HIV (PLWH) and all were virally suppressed. Eight of the cases had reported sexual orientation, of which 88% identified as gay, bisexual, or same-gender loving men. Three cases reported recent travel, one internationally and two domestically.

#### Recommendations

- Healthcare providers are urged to remain vigilant for an mpox diagnosis and particularly clade I mpox in individuals who report recent international travel or local travel to areas with increases of clade I mpox or sexual or intimate contact with someone who recently travelled, especially to an [area where clade I is circulating](#).
- Mpox testing should be provided in a timely manner to patients with compatible signs and symptoms, regardless of vaccination status or previous infection.
- Mpox vaccination with two doses is recommended for individuals who may be at risk for mpox including immunocompromised individuals and is expected to protect against both clade I and clade II mpox and remains the best strategy to protect against complications including severe illness, hospitalization, and death. In addition to other indications for mpox vaccination include:
  - Gay, bisexual, or other man who has sex with men *or*,
  - Transgender, nonbinary, or gender diverse, *or*
  - Has HIV, is taking/eligible for HIV PrEP or doxy PEP *or*
  - Was exposed to someone with mpox in the last 14 days *or*
  - Is planning travel to sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, or a country with a clade I mpox outbreak and anticipates sexual or intimate contact while traveling, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation *or*
  - Anticipates attending a commercial sex event or venue (like a sex club or bathhouse) *or*
  - Has a sex partner with any of the above risks *or*
  - Requests mpox vaccination, even if they have not disclosed any risks listed above
- **Healthcare providers must report all confirmed mpox cases within 24 hrs. Report should be submitted via the Illinois Disease Surveillance System ([IDSS](#)) or please call 311 or to speak to a CDPH Medical Director (or 312-744-5000 from outside of City of Chicago).**

Visit the CDPH [City of Chicago :: Mpox Dashboard](#) for the local data and resources related to vaccination, prevention and guidance.