

WHAT PET OWNERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MPX (MONKEYPOX)

How is MPX spread?

It is possible that people who are infected can spread MPX virus to animals through close contact. This includes petting, cuddling, hugging, kissing, sharing sleeping areas, and sharing food. People with MPX should avoid contact with animals. The virus can spread from animals to humans through bites or scratches, direct contact with body fluids or skin lesions and indirect contact with contaminated materials such as clothing or bedding.

What are the symptoms to look for in pets?

Symptoms of MPX may vary between species. Symptoms may include fever, decreased appetite, cough, lethargy, crusting or clouding of the eyes, swelling in the front and hind limbs from enlarged lymph nodes, and a bumpy or blister-like rash.

What to do if your pet was exposed to MPX?

If your pet has potentially been exposed to MPX, monitor for signs of illness and contact your veterinarian to discuss risk and safety measures.

What to do if you think your pet has MPX?

If your pet has been exposed and is showing the symptoms of MPX, please follow the instructions below.

DO:

- Immediately separate the animal from other people and animals.
- Wash your hands using soap and water (or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer) after contact with the animal.
- Clean and disinfect any surfaces or bedding after contact or use*
- Contact your veterinarian to discuss your pet's symptoms and care.

**Most household disinfectants (e.g. bleach) are effective against MPX.*

DON'T:

- Do **not** take your pet to a veterinary hospital without first calling to discuss suspected MPX.
- Do **not** leave your pet at an animal shelter.
- Do **not** release your pet into the wild.
- Do **not** euthanize pets with suspected MPX unless directed by a veterinarian.
- Do **not** wipe or bathe your pet with chemical disinfectants, alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, or other products, such as hand sanitizer, bleach cleaning wipes, or other industrial or surface cleaners.

Source: [CDC Pets in the Home](#)



CDC Pets & MPX



RUHS MPX



For more information:
E-mail mpx@ruhealth.org or Call (951) 358-5107