

## Quick facts about

# Monkeypox

## What is monkeypox?

Monkeypox is a virus that is closely related to smallpox. It was discovered in monkeys in 1958 and in humans in 1970 in Africa. In 2022, the CDC and World Health Organization have started seeing the spread of monkeypox in North America, Europe, and Africa.

## How is monkeypox spread?

**Monkeypox spreads in different ways. The virus can spread from person to person by:**

- Contact with infected rash, scabs or body fluids
- Face-to-face contact or during intimate physical contact, such as kissing, cuddling or sex
- Touching items (such as clothing or linens) that were infected with the virus
- Crossing the placenta to the fetus while in-utero
- Being scratched or bitten by an infected animal
- Preparing or eating meat or using products from an infected animal

## What are signs and symptoms?

**Signs and symptoms start five to 21 days after contact and include:**

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Chills
- Feeling very tired
- Rash and blisters

*Signs and symptoms may last two to four weeks.*

Visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for more information.

### SOURCE:

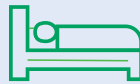
<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/infection-control-home.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/index.html>

## How can I prevent getting or spreading the virus?



**Avoid contact with people who may have monkeypox**



**Avoid items like bedding and clothing that have been in contact with sick people**



**If you may have monkeypox, isolate at home and away from people or pets you live with, when possible**



**Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer**

## How is monkeypox treated?

There is no specific treatment for monkeypox, but anti-viral medicines used for smallpox and other similar conditions may be helpful.

