



MULTI-COUNTRY MONKEYPOX OUTBREAK: SITUATION UPDATE



The situational report updates the epidemiological and public health response activities on the ongoing multi-country monkeypox outbreak.

The situation in South Africa

Since 22 June 2022 to date (6 July), there have been two unlinked laboratory-confirmed monkeypox cases in South Africa. The cases were reported from Gauteng (n=1) and Western Cape (n=1) provinces and are males aged 30 and 32 years, respectively. The first case was reported on 22 June (<https://www.nicd.ac.za/monkeypox-case-identified-in-south-africa/>) and the second on 28 June 2022 (<https://www.nicd.ac.za/second-monkeypox-case-identified-in-south-africa/>). No recent international travel history was reported in either cases. Public health response measures were initiated; with 11 close contacts (five for the case reported from Gauteng and six for the one from Western Cape) identified and monitored. At the time of this report, there have been no secondary cases linked to the two confirmed cases reported on 22 and 28 June, respectively.

Full genetic sequencing for both cases were conducted and the viral genomes clustered in the B.1 lineage of the Western Africa clade with other viral genomes associated with cases of the current multi-country outbreak.

Even though the risk of monkeypox to the general South African public is considered low, healthcare workers should be on high alert and maintain a high index of suspicion for any individuals presenting with an unexplained acute rash or skin lesions **AND** one or more of the following signs or symptoms:

- Headache
- Acute onset of fever ($>38.5^{\circ}\text{C}$)
- Lymphadenopathy (swollen lymph nodes)
- Myalgia (muscle pain/body aches)
- Backache

AND for which the following differential diagnoses are excluded: chickenpox, measles, bacterial skin infections, syphilis, molluscum contagiosum, allergic reactions and other locally relevant common cause of papular or vesicular rash.

For more information on monkeypox preparedness and response activities, visit <https://www.nicd.ac.za/diseases-a-z-index/monkeypox/>

Global situation

Since May 2022 and up to 7 July 2022, 7 215 cases have been laboratory-confirmed in 50 non-endemic countries across five WHO regions (The European Region, Regions of the Americas, Eastern Mediterranean Region, Western Pacific Region and the African Region). The majority of the cases have been reported from the WHO European Region. The latest updates on the global situation can be accessed at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/disease-outbreak-news> or <https://map.monkeypox.global.health/country>