

**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Division of Public Health**  
**Section/Branch:** Epidemiology Section – Communicable Disease Branch  
**Monkeypox and Corrections Townhall Meeting - Question and Answer**

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Monkeypox and Corrections Townhall Meeting

Wednesday, August 3, 2022, 9:00am – 9:30 am

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**Questions and Answers**

**1. Question:**

*IF you were vaccinated for smallpox, do you need to be vaccinated for Monkeypox now.*

**Answer:**

*This question was answered incorrectly during the presentation.*

Although the smallpox vaccine is effective for monkeypox, information has been provided that if you were vaccinated in the past, it was not sufficient to provide sustained immunity.

**2. Question:**

*Can jail health providers become enrolled providers, so local health departments can transfer vaccine to them?*

**Answer:**

Yes, they can. They would need to submit a request and meet existing criteria for vaccine storage. You can email [beth.meadows@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:beth.meadows@dhhs.nc.gov) with questions

**3. Question:**

*Does it act like Syphilis and may cause testing positive in the future?*

**Answer:**

No, it does not as tests are based on testing actual lesions instead of a blood test. Once lesions have resolved the test is no longer effective

**4. Question:**

*Can residents of a long-term care facility who test positive for MPX isolate with residents who have tested positive for covid?*

**Answer:**

No. That would expose those with COVID to monkeypox and vice versa creating an environment of intentional exposures.

**5. Question:**

*Any additional quarantining upon admission at this time based on screening?*

**Answer:**

No. Only isolation for an individual with confirmed or suspected infection currently.

**6. Question:**

*How can labs in correctional facilities obtain packaging materials for the test specimens (for Category B shipping)?*

**Answer:**

For commercial labs, you can call your lab provider and request supplies. If you want to use the State Lab, you will need to call the lab for details.

**7. Question:**

*Is there immunity after an initial infection?*

**Answer:**

Yes.

**8. Question:**

*If the only way to test cases is waiting until you have a sufficient prodrome to sample pus from how other municipalities are identifying virus in wastewater?*

**Answer:**

People infected with monkeypox excrete monkeypox virus DNA through skin lesions, saliva, feces, and urine, which can enter the wastewater via toilets, sinks and shower drains. However, you cannot test an asymptomatic individual to determine if they have contracted the infection.

**9. Question:**

*Is there any language you recommend being included in the jail health plan related to this guidance?*

**Answer:**

Within infection control section, Monkeypox can be added with specific attention to transmission methods, testing, and isolation needs.