



# HOW TO IDENTIFY MONKEYPOX (MPX)



Monkeypox symptoms are flu-like with swelling of lymph nodes and a rash that includes bumps that are initially filled with fluid before scabbing over. Illness could be confused with a sexually transmitted infection like syphilis or herpes, or with varicella zoster virus (chickenpox).

Symptoms of monkeypox can include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches and backache
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Chills
- Exhaustion
- A rash that can look like pimples or blisters that appears on the face, inside the mouth, and on other parts of the body, like the hands, feet, chest, genitals, or anus.

The rash goes through different stages before healing completely. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks. Sometimes, people get a rash first, followed by other symptoms. Others only experience a rash.



Image Credit: UK Health Security Agency

Monkeypox is a rare but potentially serious, viral illness that can be transmitted person to person through prolonged physical contact with someone who is infectious. This can include direct skin-to-skin contact with infectious rashes, and being exposed to respiratory droplets or bodily fluids during intimate physical contact such as kissing, cuddling or sex. It is important to understand that anyone can get monkeypox.

