



## Attention Prehospital Providers

As you may have heard, the State of Indiana has its first confirmed case of Monkeypox. As cases are likely to continue rising, now is an opportune time to familiarize yourself with this condition.

Monkeypox is a viral infection from a family of viruses, including chickenpox and smallpox. It starts with non-specific symptoms such as fever, headache, muscle aches, and fatigue. Within a few days, the characteristic rash will often appear on the face and genitals but may present in other areas.

These lesions may also present without any prior symptoms. The typical appearance is similar to blisters or pimples lasting 2-4 weeks. The regular incubation period is 7-17 days, and a patient is infectious from the onset of symptoms until the lesions have healed. It is transmitted by intimate physical contact, direct contact with infectious lesions or body fluids as well as respiratory secretions from prolonged face-to-face contact. The illness is typically self-limited and resolves with supportive care.

*What does this mean for the prehospital provider community?* There must be a heightened level of suspicion to recognize this condition, as many are unlikely to use the proper precautions if they do not recognize it in the first place. Please alert your receiving facility before arrival if transporting a suspected case.

Thank you and be safe.

For more information: IDOH: [IHAN alert](#)

CDC: [2022 U.S. Monkeypox Cases](#)