Direction de la santé

Vaccination against Mpox





Mpox - What is it?

Mpox (formely also named monkeypox) is a disease caused by a virus of the human smallpox family that emerged slowly after the eradication of human smallpox. Prior to the current epidemic, this virus was very rare outside central and west Africa. It is initially a zoonosis, i.e. a disease that is transmitted from animals - often rodents - to humans, but over time human-to-human transmission has become more common.

How is the virus transmitted?

Human-to-human transmission occurs through close contact, which

- Direct contact with skin and mucous membrane lesions, and body secretions.
- Respiratory secretions (droplets) during prolonged face-to-face contact or intimate physicalintimate physical contact respectively sexual contact.
- Contact with materials that have been exposed to the infectious outbreak or body fluid.

Mpox vaccination - Why?

Persons infected with mpox usually recover within 2-4 weeks. However, complications such as bacterial superinfections, eye damage, or central nervous system damage have been reported. Vaccination is therefore important, both for self-protection and to protect those around you, and to help prevent the epidemic from spreading.

Vaccination against mpox - for whom?

A. To prevent infection:

- In men who have sex with men reporting multiple sexual partners.
- In sex workers.

B. After exposure (within 14 days of exposure):

- For immunocompromised persons who have had high-risk contact (sexual contact, contact with skin lesions or mucous membranes of an infected person, contact within the same household).
- For caregivers who have not applied appropriate personal protective measures.

Vaccination against mpox - how?

The vaccines will be distributed to the member states of the European Union according to a distribution key. Initially, only a limited number of vaccines will be available. The government will call on different groups to be vaccinated. If you belong to the respective group, you can get vaccinated by making an appointment at the Service National des Maladies Infectieuses of the Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg. Please make your appointment at: +352 4411-3129.

Discriminating against someone because of a disease is reprehensible.

The mpox virus has no regard for sexual orientation.



