

Monkeypox has been declared a Public Health Emergency in the United States, where over 7,000 cases have been reported. Utah has over 40 cases, although none have yet been confirmed in Southwest Utah.

While this infection is currently circulating primarily among men who have sex with men (MSM), it can be spread to anyone with close skin-to-skin contact. Though the infection can be painful, most people will recover from monkeypox without any need for treatment.

People who are at high-risk and develop flu-like symptoms, swollen lymph nodes, or a rash should contact their healthcare provider for testing.

Vaccines are extremely limited and are being prioritized for high-risk people. Currently, they are available in Utah at:

Utah County Health Department: health.utahcounty.gov/2022/07/26/monkeypox **Salt Lake County Health Department**: slco.org/health/infectious-disease/

To avoid and prevent the spread of monkeypox:

- Avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like monkeypox.
- Do not kiss, hug, cuddle, or have sex with someone with monkeypox.
- Avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with monkeypox has used.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially before eating or touching your face and after you use the bathroom.
- If you have (or think you might have) monkeypox, isolate yourself from others and consult your healthcare provider.

Utah monkeypox updates: https://epi.health.utah.gov/monkeypox/

For more information, visit cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox.

Healthcare provider information: https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/index.html