As of now, there is no treatment for monkeypox. However, antiviral medication for smallpox may be used for people who are likely to get severely ill.

There is a vaccine for monkeypox. Due to recommendations from CDC, and national and state guidelines, the vaccines are being distributed based on the level of exposure.

Need more information?

Check out the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s website for more information on Monkeypox

Contact the City of St. Louis Department of Health

- 314-657-1499
- health@stlouis-mo.gov

What is Monkeypox?

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID), Division of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology (DHCPP)
Anyone Can Get Monkeypox.

Monkeypox can be acquired by all people, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.

What is Monkeypox?

Monkeypox is a disease that is caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. Monkeypox virus belongs to the Orthopoxvirus genus in the family Poxviridae. The Orthopoxvirus genus also includes variola virus (which causes smallpox), vaccinia virus (used in the smallpox vaccine), and cowpox virus.

How it Spreads

- Monkeys can spread through:
  - direct contact with an infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids
  - respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact, such as kissing, cuddling, or sex
  - touching objects, fabrics (such as clothing or linens) that previously touched the rash or body fluids of someone with monkeypox
  - being scratched or bitten by an infected animal

Symptoms

- Fever
- Chills
- Rashes
- Muscle pain/Backaches
- Fatigue
- Swelling of lymph nodes behind ears, on the neck, in the groin area, or in the armpits

Monkeypox symptoms usually appear one to two weeks after infection, but sometimes this can extend to 3 weeks.

Monkeypox can spread from the time symptoms start until the rash has fully healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed. This can take several weeks.