Early detection can help stop the spread of mpox.
Know what to look for and what to do if you suspect mpox.

**Signs and Symptoms**

- A new, maculo-papular rash that develops into vesicles and then pustules. Lesions may be deep-seated, firm, well-circumscribed and umbilicated. The rash may:
  - Appear anywhere on the body, including palms, soles and anogenital region
  - Be localized to a specific body site or diffuse
  - Be the only symptom people experience
  - Be painful, painless, or itchy

- Fever, headache, malaise, chills, and lymphadenopathy may occur.

- Patients may present with anorectal pain, rectal bleeding, or tenesmus in association with visible perianal skin lesions and proctitis.

**Ask the patient: Within the last 21 days, have you**

- Traveled to a **country** with recent mpox cases, one that’s experienced prior outbreaks?

- Had close or intimate contact with someone with a similar rash or confirmed mpox infection?

- Had close or intimate contact with someone in a social network experiencing mpox infection?
  - Most U.S. cases have been among gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM); this includes MSM who meet partners through an online website, dating apps, or social events.
Call your **health department** as soon as you suspect mpox

- Your state or local public health agency will:
  
  - Provide guidance for specimen collection and arrange for testing
  - Provide guidance for isolation
  - Discuss treatment options, if needed
- Tell your hospital epidemiologist or infection preventionist about the patient.

**Protect your patient, yourself, and others**

- Have the patient wear a mask and place them in a single-person room. Follow CDC’s [infection prevention and control guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov/mpox) for healthcare facilities, including using [appropriate PPE](https://www.cdc.gov/mpox) around the patient.

**Share resources with your patient**

Let patients know:

- **What to do if they are sick**, including how to manage symptoms and rash relief
  
  - **How to identify close contacts** and tips on what to say
  
  - **How to prevent spreading** mpox to others
    
    People with mpox are advised to stay at home (isolate) if they have mpox symptoms, including until the mpox rash has healed and a new layer of skin has formed.
  
  - **How to disinfect their home**, including what type of disinfectant to use and how to clean hard and soft surfaces
  
  - If **treatment** may be right for them