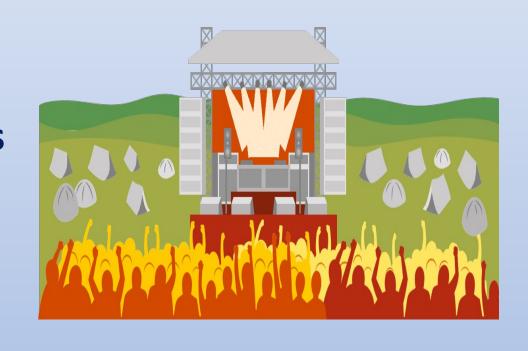
WHO Public Health advice for gatherings during the current monkeypox outbreak

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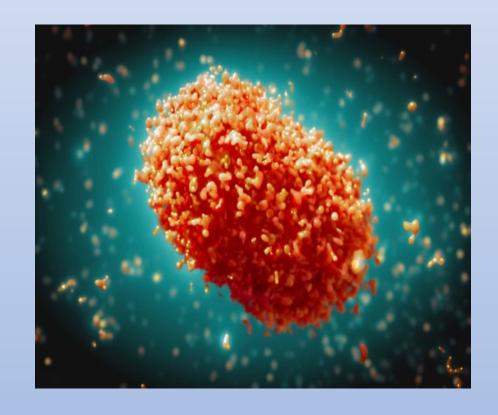




HQ Border Health and Mass Gatherings Unit

Key topics

- 1. What do we mean by gatherings?
- 2. The use of Risk Assessment/ Risk-based approach in Mass Gatherings
- 3. Key monkeypox messages for gatherings
- 4. WHO resources on Monkeypox





Definition

Concentration of people at a specific location for a specific purpose over a set period of time



During gatherings, the likely high density and mobility of attendees (crowding) represents a conducive environment for close, prolonged and frequent interactions between people.



WHO Risk Assessment approach

• WHO recommends that the decision-making process related to holding, modifying, postponing or cancelling gatherings should rely on a **risk-based approach**, tailored to the characteristics of the event under consideration and be repeated at regular intervals.

• In the context of the current outbreak monkeypox-associated risks should be considered and factored in when planning a gathering event.

Postponing or cancelling gatherings in areas where monkeypox cases have been

detected is currently not required as a default measure.

- 3-step WHO Risk Assessment approach:
 - 1. Risk Evaluation
 - 2. Risk Mitigation
 - 3. Risk Communication



(Draft MG publication): WHO Public Health advice for gatherings during the current monkeypox outbreak

Health authorities and event organizers are invited to:

- Gatherings as opportunities for information outreach and risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) activities
- Identify events that are most likely to be associated with risk of MPX transmission
- Ensure MPX is included among the diseases regularly reported through routine surveillance
- Prompt and adequate clinical management of identified cases
- Inform on the evolution of the outbreak, and adequately monitor and address rumours and misinformation
- Liaison with health authorities and be aware of the epidemiology of MPX in the host area
- Share information with prospective attendees and all those involved in the event planning and delivery
- Facilitate the adoption of appropriate PHSM



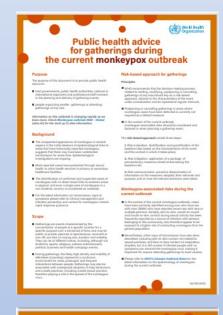


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Advice for people organizing smaller gatherings or attending gatherings of any size:

- People with signs and symptoms should refrain from close contact with any other individual & should avoid attending gatherings
- As skin-to-skin, mouth-to-mouth and mouth-to-skin transmission during sexual activity has been frequently reported as a likely source of infection, close contact with someone who has signs and symptoms consistent with monkeypox should be avoided
- Gatherings attendees should always be reminded to apply individual-level responsibility to their decisions and actions

WHO continues to monitor the current monkeypox closely for any changes that may affect the advice included in this document. Should any factors change, WHO will issue a further update.





Resources on Monkeypox

Resources

- Disease Outbreak News for current figures, details on countries, WHO actions. Most recent one on 17 June.
- Consultation with research experts on monkeypox, 2-3 June (with video); media statement on outcomes of the meeting
- Fact sheet on monkeypox for history of virus, previous outbreaks: Monkeypox (who.int)
- EPI-WIN presentation on monkeypox (<u>slides</u> and <u>video</u>), 30 May WHO EURO RD statements, 20 May and 31 May
- WHO EMRO statement on first case detected in the region, 24 May
- WHO AFRO statement, 31 May
- DG's press conference, 1 June
- **Q&A** on transmission
- Social live Q&A on monkeypox, 23 May and 30 May

Guidance and public health recommendations

- Interim advice on Risk Communication and Community Engagement during the monkeypox outbreak in Europe, (2022)
- Minimum data set case reporting form
- Surveillance, case investigation and contact tracing for Monkeypox (includes contact tracing) Laboratory guidance for national laboratories
- Interim guidance on surveillance, case investigation and contact tracing for monkeypox
- Enhancing readiness for monkeypox in WHO SEARO region
- Public health advice for MSM

