

Slippery Rock University Student Health Services

Monkeypox Bulletin for 2022 Fall Semester | Updated Aug. 19, 2022

SRU and its Student Health Services are closely following the spread of monkeypox in the state and the possibility of future impact on the campus community.

What is monkeypox?

Monkeypox, or MPV, is a contagious disease from the same family of viruses that cause smallpox, but the symptoms are milder and rarely fatal.

What are the symptoms?

MPV symptoms include: rash, fever, chills, headache, muscle aches, fatigue, swollen lymph nodes. Pimple-like sores, which start in the genital area and spread to other parts of the body, are also symptoms and are sometimes mistaken for a sexually transmitted illness. Some symptoms are mild, so people might not even know they have MPV.

How is it spread?

MPV is spread through close, personal and often skin-to-skin contact, including direct contact with the MPV rash, sores or body fluids; touching objects, fabrics and other surfaces used by someone with MPV; and contact with respiratory secretions, such as saliva.

How to prevent or reduce the risk of getting MPV?

Avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have rashes, as well as any objects they may have used, and wash your hands often.

- Highest risk: Sexual contact or direct contact with rash, sores or body fluid.
- High risk: Kissing, cuddling and other intimate contact.
- Moderate risk: Sharing drinks, beds or towels, and dancing inside at a crowded party.
- Low risk: Dancing at a party outside, workplace transmission, trying on clothing at a store, touching a doorknob, swimming with others, or entering public places such as a restroom, airport, grocery store, etc.

Where can I get tested?

SRU's Student Health Center does not offer MPV testing; however, testing is available at local hospitals, including:

- [Allegheny Health Network Grove City Hospital's Emergency Department.](#)
- [Butler Health System Faster Care, Slippery Rock.](#)
- [Butler Memorial Hospital.](#)

Is there an MPV vaccine?

The preferred vaccine to protect against MPV is JYNNEOS, which is a two-dose vaccine that takes 14 days after the second dose to provide immune protection. SRU's Student Health Center does not offer the vaccine and JYNNEOS is only available for high-risk exposures. The closest community health providers that are offering the vaccine are located in Pittsburgh.

Please contact the Student Health Services (724.738.2052) for more information about MPV or [visit the CDC website.](#)