



Stay Safe from Monkeypox in the Workplace

Learn the signs of the Monkeypox virus, what symptoms to look out for, and how to make your workplace safe from viral infection.

Monkeypox is a growing health concern.



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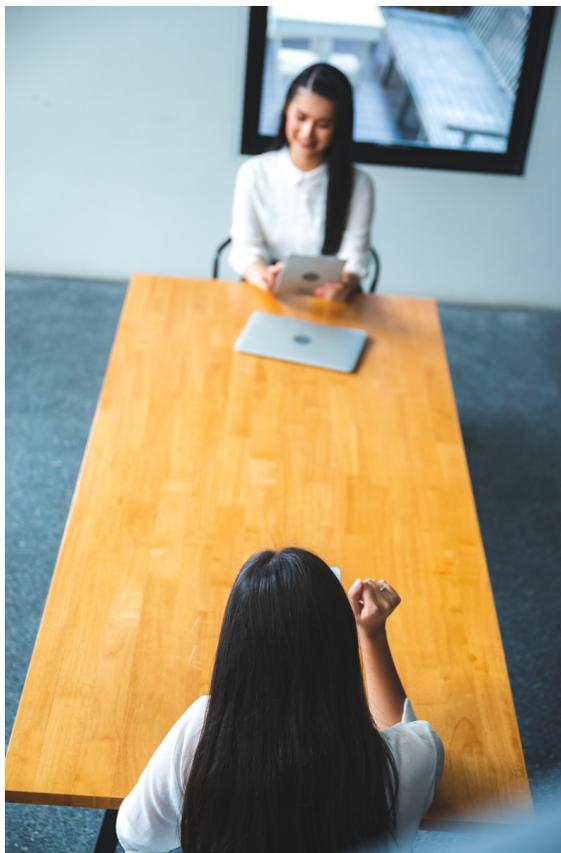
HOW TO STAY SAFE FROM MONKEYPOX IN THE WORKPLACE

Although current information about the spread of **Monkeypox** lacks specific details, the public health community still recommends certain actions to maintain safety in the workplace. This viral illness that causes painful rashes is spread through touch. Therefore, every business should take certain precautions to recognize it and prevent its spread.

Signs and Symptoms of Monkeypox Infection

Monkeypox symptoms can look much like any other viral infection. The Affected Person has a fever, swollen lymph nodes, muscle aches, sore throat, stuffy nose, and feels tired and sore. However, this illness also causes a severe rash at the point of contact. While some people erroneously believe that it is a sexually transmitted disease, this is not solely true. The rash can also appear on hands, face, chest, or any other part of the body that comes in contact with the virus.

Not everyone experiences it in the same way. Some feel like they have the flu. Other people only get a rash. Any combination of the signs and symptoms may appear in different cases. Most people recover from Monkeypox within 2 to 4 weeks.



Rules About Quarantine

Since Monkeypox spreads through touch, it makes sense to keep people with the above signs and symptoms out of work until they have fully recovered. There are still questions about whether the virus can spread from touching an object that a person with the illness touched previously.

In many ways, the Covid-19 pandemic has prepared workplaces well for dealing with this new outbreak. Keeping people away from each other physically can help. Educating workers about not touching each other, such as avoiding shaking hands, is also a good idea. Schedule employee training that focuses specifically on these safety protocols. Anyone who shows any signs or symptoms of Monkeypox should be sent home immediately and told to seek medical help.

Monkeypox Workplace Policies

Offices, shops, industrial businesses, and other workplaces all respond to health and safety issues differently. Although OSHA has no current Monkeypox recommendations, it makes sense to come up with some of your own in order to combat this growing problem.

Employers are required to provide a safe workplace for everyone that comes through the doors. This includes recommendations for social distancing, increased handwashing, and staying home if symptoms of any communicative illness exist.

Unfortunately, Monkeypox may also carry a stigma because the illness is more common in Africa and the gay male population at this time. Watch for any signs of discrimination in your workplace. The best way to combat these issues and the virus itself is through education. Post signs reminding people to keep their distance and use hand sanitizer. Organize educational meetings or training sessions that reiterate healthy workplace practices. Keep an eye out for any signs of infection. Also, it is important during these times to let employees know that they should stay out of work if they are sick and that they will not be penalized for protecting their coworkers and the business as a whole.

Monkeypox presents a new health challenge in the workplace, but many of the smart protection practices developed for Covid-19 can help. Continue your focus on hygiene, employee support, and education to minimize this new threat.

