

JYNNEOS Vaccine for Monkeypox (MPV): Frequently Asked Questions

The JYNNEOS vaccine is recommended for people age 18 or older who are at high risk for monkeypox infection.

Who is eligible to be vaccinated?

The vaccination is available for Individuals who had close physical contact with someone diagnosed with MPV, or those who know their sexual partner was diagnosed with MPV in the last 14 days. Additionally, vaccine is available through some healthcare providers to reach individuals at higher risk of unknown or potential exposure to MPV through their social network – at this time this includes *gay, bisexual or other (cis or trans) men who have sex with men who have intimate or sexual contact with other men in a social or sexual venue, or who have multiple or anonymous partners, or give or receive money or other goods/services in exchange for sex*. The vaccine is not currently recommended for the general public, including (cis or trans) men who have sex with men without the additional criteria.

What is the JYNNEOS vaccine, and how does it work?

The JYNNEOS vaccine has been approved in the U.S. for the prevention of MPV and smallpox. The vaccine contains a vaccinia virus, which is a virus related to the monkeypox and smallpox viruses, that has been weakened, cannot copy itself in human cells, and cannot spread to other parts of the body or people.

The vaccine can help protect people against MPV when given before exposure to the virus. Experts believe the vaccine also can reduce the risk of infection if given within four days after exposure and reduce the risk of serious illness if given within 14 days after exposure. The sooner you get the vaccine after exposure the more likely it is to work.

Can I get MPV or smallpox from the JYNNEOS vaccine?

No. The virus in the vaccine is weakened and cannot copy in human cells. The vaccine cannot cause MPV, smallpox or vaccinia in the person getting vaccinated or those around them.

How many doses do I need? Will I need a booster shot?

People should get two doses at least four weeks apart. Additional booster shots are not recommended for people with a community exposure. Some individuals who work directly with the virus and certain U.S. military personnel receive regular booster doses every few years.

How long does the vaccine take to work?

It takes time for your body to build protection from the vaccine. You will start to build protection in the days and weeks after your first dose and have full immunity from the vaccine two weeks after your second dose.

How well does the vaccine work?

Clinical trial data shows two doses of the JYNNEOS vaccine are effective in preventing MPV. We will learn more about how well JYNNEOS vaccine will prevent MPV in the current outbreak. That is why it is important to continue other prevention measures such as avoiding sex and other close physical contact with people who have symptoms of MPV.

What are common side effects of the vaccine?

Side effects are common but usually mild. Most people have redness, swelling and pain where they got the shot. Tiredness, headache and muscle pain can also occur after vaccination.

What should I do if I have a serious health problem after vaccination?

Signs of a severe allergic reaction include hives, swelling of the face and throat, difficulty breathing, a fast heartbeat, dizziness, and weakness. If you think you are having a severe allergic reaction, call 911 or go to the nearest hospital. Call your health care provider if you have other side effects that concern you. If you do not have a provider, call 311 to be connected to care.

Your provider is required to report serious adverse reactions to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS), but you can also report to VAERS at vaers.hhs.gov or by calling 800-822-7967. VAERS staff members do not give medical advice.

Can people with a weakened immune system or other medical conditions get vaccinated?

Yes. JYNNEOS has been studied in people with HIV and atopic dermatitis, and no severe adverse events were identified.

Who cannot get vaccinated?

People who had a severe allergic reaction to a previous dose of the JYNNEOS vaccine or an ingredient in the vaccine (such as gentamicin, ciprofloxacin or egg protein) should not get vaccinated.

Should people who previously received a smallpox vaccine get vaccinated?

While there may be some protection, whether this protection persists, or the level of protection is uncertain. Individuals who have not received JYNNEOS within the last 2 years or ACAM vaccine within the last 3 years and otherwise meet criteria for vaccination, should receive the vaccine.

Can I get the vaccine at the same time as other vaccines?

The JYNNEOS vaccine may be given before, after or at the same time as other vaccines. The exceptions are the Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines. People at increased risk of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart), particularly young adult males, might consider waiting four weeks after their JYNNEOS vaccine to get a dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. However, if vaccination is recommended due to a known exposure to MPV, you should get the JYNNEOS vaccine even if you recently got the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.

For more information about MPV, visit;
Chicago Department of Public Health - [Get the Facts: monkeypox](#).