



Community & Public Health

Te Mana Ora

Public Health Alert

Monkeypox is now a notifiable disease

The Ministry of Health has added monkeypox to the list of notifiable diseases, and clinicians are now required to notify the medical officer of health of any known or suspected cases.

The Ministry of Health has developed monkeypox testing protocols in partnership with the New Zealand Microbiology Network, and a PCR test should be available at ESR by later this week.

A revised Clinical Update is now available: <https://www.cph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/NatlAdvisoryMonkeypoxInitialClinicalUpdate220525.pdf>, and information for the public is available on the Ministry's website:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/monkeypox>

Monkeypox is a viral disease that typically begins with symptoms such as a fever, chills, muscle aches, backache, swollen lymph nodes and exhaustion. A blister-like rash or lesions then typically appear on the face and spread to other parts of the body. The rash goes through several stages – like chickenpox – before finally becoming a scab that falls off.

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Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha