Monkeypox Screening & Testing Checklist for Healthcare Providers

PATIENT PRECAUTIONS
- Have suspect patient wear a mask and cover any exposed skin lesions prior to arrival
- Do not place suspect patient in general waiting area, bring patient directly back to exam room
- Place suspect patient directly into a closed, single-person room. Special air handling is not required.

PATIENT SCREENING
Consider testing if the person has a rash/lesions and in the last 21 days has had:
- Direct, skin-to-skin contact with a person who has confirmed/suspected monkeypox
- Close, in-person contact with other men who have sex with men
- Traveled outside the US or in the US where there has been monkeypox noted
- Lymphadenopathy, fever, and fatigue
- Well-circumscribed, deep seated lesions that often have a central umbilication (can be in mucosal areas such as mouth and anogenital areas)

HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL PRECAUTIONS
- Prior to seeing a suspect patient, healthcare personnel should don:
  - Disposable gown, gloves, eye protection, N95 or higher-level respirator mask
  - Pregnant or immune compromised staff should avoid interaction with suspect patients
- See Sequence for Donning and Doffing Personal Protective Equipment.

Providers should report any suspect cases to the NM Department of Health by calling the 24/7/365 EPIDEMIOLOGY HOTLINE at: (505) 827-0006

TESTING DIRECTIONS FOR SLD
- The goal is to sample 2 to 3 lesions from 2 to 3 different locations on the body and/or lesions with differing appearances.
- Vigorously swab or scrub each lesion with two separate sterile, dry, polyester swabs (one for preliminary and one for confirmatory testing). Do not use cotton swabs and do not swab more than one lesion with each swab. You do not need to unroof the lesion.
- Each swab should each be placed in a separate dry container (such as sterile urine cup or tube).
- Do not add or store in viral or universal transport media (for SLD).
- Each lesion that is sampled requires a separate test requisition form.
- If you swab 3 lesions, you will have 6 swabs in 6 separate dry containers and 3 requisitions.
- Immediately refrigerate samples (2-8°C), and contact NMDOH at (505) 827-0006 for shipping instructions.

PATIENT PRECAUTIONS
- Advise patients waiting for results to isolate at home, avoid contact with others, and monitor symptoms. People should wear a mask and cover lesions if they must be around others.
- If positive for monkeypox, refer patients to CDC’s Isolation and Prevention Practices for People with Monkeypox | Monkeypox | Poxvirus | CDC

For more information, visit: www.nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/mpv

July 2022