



Serial number: 2024/049

Date: 30 October 2024

Event: First case of Clade Ib mpox in UK

Notified by: Incident 035 Incident Director

Authorised by:

Ruth Milton, Strategic Response Director

Trish Mannes, Regional Deputy Director

Clare Cook, Communications

Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Advisor and Strategic Response Director for NRC035

Contact: incident035.nrc@ukhsa.gov.uk

IRP Level: Enhanced

Incident Lead: incident035.id@ukhsa.gov.uk

Instructions for Cascade

- **Devolved Administrations** to cascade to Medical Directors and other DA teams as appropriate to their local arrangements
- **Crown Dependencies** to cascade to teams as appropriate to local arrangements
- **Regional Deputy Directors** to cascade to Directors of Public Health
- **UKHSA microbiologists** to cascade to non-UKHSA labs (NHS labs and private)
- **UKHSA microbiologists** to cascade to NHS Trust infection leads
- **NHS labs/NHS infection leads/NHS microbiologist/NHS infectious disease specialists** to cascade to Emergency Departments, Infectious Diseases
- **NHSE National Operations Centre** to cascade to Emergency Departments, Primary Care, Infectious Diseases, and Microbiology

Summary:

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has detected a single case of Clade Ib mpox.

The risk to the UK population remains low.

Background and Interpretation:

A case of clade Ib mpox has been diagnosed in England. This is the first detection of this clade of mpox in the UK. It is different from mpox Clade II that has been circulating at low levels in the UK since 2022, primarily among gay, bisexual and other men-who-have-sex-with-men (GBMSM).

The case was detected in London and the individual has been transferred to the High Consequence Infectious Diseases unit at the Royal Free Hospital. They had recently travelled to affected countries in Africa which have community cases of Clade I mpox.



UK Health Security Agency

Close contacts of the case are being followed up by UKHSA and partner organisations. Contacts will be risk assessed and offered information, vaccination and testing as needed. Contacts will also be advised on any necessary further care if they develop symptoms or test positive.

Clade I mpox has been widely circulating in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in recent months and there have been cases reported in several other African countries [Clade I mpox: affected countries - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/clade-i-mpox-affected-countries). In August 2024 the WHO declared mpox a Public Health Emergency on International Concern Outside of the African Region, there are reports of single imported clade I mpox cases in India, Sweden, Thailand and Germany. However there are no reports of further transmission within these countries.

Sporadic imported cases of clade Ib mpox are not unexpected and planning activities have been ongoing in recent months to ensure appropriate plans are in place for their detection and management. The wider risk to the UK population remains low.

Implications & Recommendations for UKHSA Regions

Manage suspected cases according to guidance at [NULLMpox \(monkeypox\): guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/monkeypox-guidance)

Implications & Recommendations for UKHSA sites and services

Manage suspected cases according to guidance at [Mpox \(monkeypox\): guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/monkeypox-guidance)

Implications & Recommendations for NHS

Manage suspected cases according to guidance at [Mpox \(monkeypox\): guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/monkeypox-guidance)
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/infection-prevention-and-control-measures-for-clinically-suspected-and-confirmed-cases-of-mpox-in-healthcare-settings/>

Implications and recommendations for Local Authorities

For awareness

References/ Sources of information

[Mpox \(monkeypox\): guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/monkeypox-guidance)
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/infection-prevention-and-control-measures-for-clinically-suspected-and-confirmed-cases-of-mpox-in-healthcare-settings/>
