

National Coalition for
LGBTQ Health

**Engaging the LGBTQ
Community in Mpox
Vaccination**

May 14th, 2025

healthlgbtq.org

National Coalition for LGBTQ Health

- Strives to improve the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals through advocacy, education, capacity building, and health services research.
- Encompasses the entire LGBTQ+ community, including individuals of every sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, and age regardless of disability, income, education, and geography.
- Leads the annual National LGBTQ Health Awareness Week which it created 23 years ago.

2025 Awareness Week



THE 23RD NATIONAL
LGBTQ HEALTH
AWARENESS WEEK



HealthLGBTQ.org

HEALTH EQUITY NOW!

Previous Awareness Weeks



HealthLGBTQ National Training Center



Health**LGBTQ**
National Training
Center

www.HealthLGBTQ.org



Expert-led live training opportunities



On-demand CE/CME/CNE/CPE-certified education



Practice aids for clinicians and support service providers



Topics will include:

Mental wellness

Medical mistrust

Gender-affirming care

Unique healthcare needs of LGBTQ+ patients

Aging in the LGBTQ+ community

Inclusive care models

Alcohol and substance use among LGBTQ+ patients

Social determinants of health

and more

The LGBTQ Equity in HIV Prevention and Treatment Series - *Coming June 2025*

1 Individualizing HIV Prevention and Treatment

2 Accessing HIV Prevention & Care Services

3 Providing Optimal HIV Care to Transgender and Nonbinary Patients

4 Engaging Same-Gender-Loving Black and Latino Men in HIV Care

5 Coordinating Care for Older LGBTQ Adults



Enhance your clinical knowledge with expert-driven education



Gain actionable strategies for delivering culturally competent LGBTQ care



Earn up to 5.0 CE/CME/NCPD/AAPA/CPE credits, and a certificate of completion



Join a national community of providers advancing LGBTQ health equity



CDC's *Let's Stop HIV Together* campaign is the national campaign of the [Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. \(EHE\)](#) initiative and the [National HIV/AIDS Strategy](#).

Visit www.cdc.gov/stophivtogether for social media toolkits, printable assets, and more resources to help reduce HIV stigma and promote HIV testing, prevention, and treatment.

Join us at SYNChronicity 2025

Organized by the National Coalition for LGBTQ Health, HealthHIV, and HealthHCV, the national SYNChronicity (SYNC) conference connects healthcare and public health audiences to effectively address LGBTQ Health, HIV, HCV, STIs, Harm Reduction, and Health Equity.

Register and submit abstracts at:
www.syncconference.org.



Engaging the LGBTQ Community in Mpox Vaccination

May 14th, 2025

Learning Objectives

1. Identify effective community responses to mpox spread.
2. Understand challenges in mpox vaccine uptake.
3. Empower participants to engage in mpox public education strategies.

Panelists

- **Dylan Brooks, LCSW**

Director of HIV Prevention and Education
Compass LGBTQ+ Community Center



- **Abdur-Rahim Briggs**

President and CEO
Project Briggs, Inc.

PROJECT BRIGGS INC.

COMMUNITY | IS | OUR | SUPERPOWER!

- **Sam Brown**

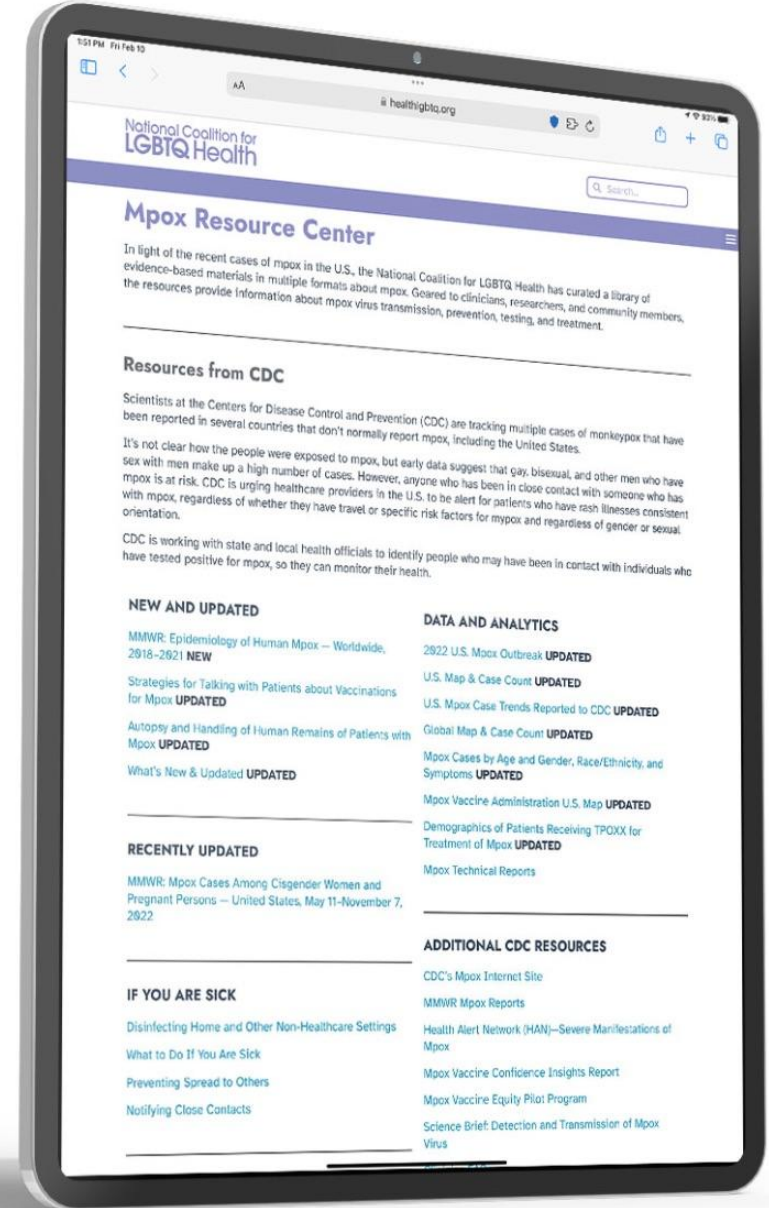
HIV and Wellness Program Manager
Civic Heart Community Services



Mpox Resources

The National Coalition for LGBTQ Health's **Mpox Resource Center** provides information, data, links to resources, and general news from multiple sources on mpox in the United States on topics including prevention, transmission, testing, and treatment.

Visit: www.healthlgbtq.org/mpox.



Mpox Resource Center

The Mpox Resource Center contains the following components:

- Webinars and events
- Mpox information, data, and trackers
- Links to partner resources
- Mpox updates and news
- Videos and media



The National Coalition for LGBTQ Health has launched a microgrant program* with LGBTQ organizations to support their efforts to increase mpox awareness through dissemination of information and educational resources.

The awareness and educational materials are designed to further empower communities with knowledge and resources for dissemination, enabling them to more fully engage in preventive measures and raise awareness of vaccination and its equitable access. Micrograntee outreach efforts are supported by the Coalition's [Mpox Resource Center](#), which provides information, data, links to resources, and general news from multiple sources on Mpox in the United States and globally.

** The microgrant program is made possible through a grant from Bavarian Nordic. Inc.*

[LEARN MORE](#)

MFax Campaign

The **new “mfax” national campaign** focuses on LGBTQ audiences and seeks to facilitate mpox awareness and education through the use of digital and print assets, including: graphics, fact sheets, social media posts, and material distribution.

Visit: www.mfax.org.



MFax Campaign Examples

"How do I protect my community from mpox?"



Increase awareness about signs and symptoms of infection and prioritize keeping at-risk people safe by encouraging vaccination.

Get the facts at mfx.org.



"Where can I find more information on mpox?"



You can find important, up-to-date information and links about mpox at mfx.org, presented by the National Coalition for LGBTQ Health.



"Is it true that mpox is no longer spreading in the United States?"



No — mpox is still out there. Get the facts about mpox vaccinations and other prevention strategies at mfx.org.



"Who is impacted most by mpox in the United States?"



While anyone can get mpox, recent outbreaks have predominantly affected the LGBTQ community.

Get the facts at mfx.org.



"Is it true that mpox is no longer spreading in the United States?"



No — mpox is still out there. Get the facts about mpox vaccinations and other prevention strategies at mfx.org.



"Should I get vaccinated against mpox?"



Yes, mpox vaccines can prevent infection and lessen the severity of symptoms.

Get the facts at mfx.org.



"Is mpox only transmitted through sex?"



No — mpox can be transmitted through close contact, including, but not limited to, sexual contact.

Get the facts at mfx.org.



"What are the symptoms of mpox?"



Symptoms can include rash, fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes, fatigue, and respiratory issues.

Get the facts at mfx.org.



the facts about mpox



What is mpox?

Mpox (formerly referred to as monkeypox) is a contagious viral illness caused by the mpox virus. It can spread through close personal contact, including sex and physical contact, especially with multiple encounters or partners.

While symptoms are often mild, some cases can be severe. If you have an unexplained skin rash or lesions, seek medical care.

There are two types (clades) of the mpox virus: Clade I and Clade II.

Who does mpox affect?

Mpox can affect anyone, but during recent outbreaks, gay, bisexual, and other same-gender-loving men, as well as transgender individuals, have been especially impacted.

Data from the CDC and WHO indicate that transmission has been higher in these populations due to social and sexual networks where close contact is more frequent.

People with severely immunocompromised conditions, like those with uncontrolled HIV, are at the highest risk for severe illness.

Vaccination and awareness are essential in reducing transmission—particularly within the LGBTQ community.

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms usually develop within 3 weeks of exposure and can last for 2–4 weeks.

Common symptoms include:

- ▶ Rash—can appear anywhere on the body, including penis, rectum, groin, buttocks, face, hands, or feet. Some may develop only a few localized spots, while others experience a more widespread rash and/or lesions.
- ▶ Other symptoms:
 - » Fever
 - » Chills
 - » Headache
 - » Muscle and back pain
 - » Swollen lymph nodes
 - » Fatigue or general unwellness
 - » Respiratory symptoms

REFERENCES

CDC, <https://www.cdc.gov/mpox/prevention/index.html>

World Health Organization, <https://www.who.int/health-topics/mpox>

Cleveland Clinic, <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/22371-monkeypox>

Mayo Clinic, <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/infectious-diseases/expert-answers/monkeypox-faq/faq-20533608>

* Two vaccines can be used to prevent mpox: JYNNEOS[®] and ACAM2000[®], but only a 2-dose JYNNEOS regimen has been used in the ongoing clade II outbreak.

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How can I prevent mpox?

People at risk or recently exposed can take steps to protect their health.

- ▶ Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, try to avoid skin-to-skin contact with anyone who has a rash, and clean shared surfaces.
- ▶ Vaccination is the best protection.*
 - » For maximum protection, get the mpox vaccine within 4 days of possible exposure.
- ▶ If received within 14 days, the vaccine may still help reduce symptoms.*
 - » Getting both doses of the vaccine significantly lowers the risk of infection.
- ▶ If you missed your second dose, it's never too late to get it.*

Where can I get vaccinated?

Mpox vaccines are available at pharmacies, healthcare providers, and select local health departments. Please consult your local healthcare provider and/or pharmacist to find out where you can get an mpox vaccine.

What about vaccine efficacy & safety?

Clinical trials and real-world data show that the vaccine is safe and well-tolerated, with most side effects being mild, such as redness, swelling, or pain at the injection site. Serious reactions are rare.*

Where can I learn more?

This fact sheet is part of the MFax campaign created by the National Coalition for LGBTQ Health to raise awareness about mpox. Visit mfax.org for facts and information on mpox vaccination and prevention strategies.



For additional information, data, links to resources, and general news on mpox in the United States, please visit the Coalition's Mpox Resource Center at HealthLGBTQ.org/mpox.

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HealthLGBTQ.org

Panel: Community Pulsepoint

- What is the current state of mpox in your area? Are you seeing more, less, or the same number of cases as last year?
- How do you get reliable local data?

Panel: Barriers on the Ground

- What do you see as the biggest challenges to facilitating mpox vaccine uptake in your area and nationally?
- The primary vaccine used to prevent mpox in the United States is a 2-dose regimen. Are people experiencing barriers to receiving the second dose? If so, how are you addressing them?

Panel: Implementation Best Practices

- What do you wish you'd learned before you started mpox awareness and outreach work?
- Can you share an example of successful local mpox outreach. Do you have any implementation recommendations for others?

Panel: Power in Community

- What role do trusted community partners play in efforts to reduce stigma around mpox, and encourage vaccine uptake?
- What are the most effective outreach strategies you've utilized to educate your community about mpox?

Panel: Policy Pressures and Takeaways

- How have healthcare policy changes affected your ability to scale or sustain mpox vaccine awareness, education, and ultimately uptake?
- What is one key takeaway for today's webinar?

Q&A

For More Information

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