

Appendix A: Mpox (monkeypox) in Children & Young People - Quick Guide

Child or young person presenting with a **vesicular and/or pustular rash** and any **epidemiological risk factors**

Or

Any new **unexplained rash or systemic symptoms** in a **known contact of confirmed Mpox (monkeypox)**

Epidemiological Risk Factors?

- Known contact with confirmed or suspected Mpox (monkeypox) case in last 21 days?
- Household adult male member with vesicular or pustular rash?
- Recent travel from West & Central Africa?
- Young person: male who has sex with males?

YES



NO



Plan

- Consider location – away from other patients is ideal, alternatively designated cubicle – consider referral to Sexual Health Centre if over 13 and relevant
- Wear correct PPE (minimum FRSM, gloves and apron; +/-eye protection & FFP3)

History

- See question list in Guidance Part A

Test

- Send viral swab for Mpox (monkeypox) PCR and additional tests for differential diagnosis
- Consider investigations for alternative diagnoses

Requires admission?

- See Appendix C
- If unwell, admit to side room with own toilet facility
- PPE: FFP3, gown, gloves, eye protection
- Contact paediatric HCID network

Safe for discharge?

- See Appendix B
- Check can isolate – provide written information, red flags and your contact details – see RCPCH guidance

Unusual rash or other high clinical index of suspicion
Step-wise testing recommended
Send two swabs from lesion, one to be stored by virology pending initial results

If no alternative diagnosis, negative for other viruses, re-assess and discuss with paed ID
Request stored swab is sent for Mpox (monkeypox) PCR

Clinically consistent with alternate diagnosis, e.g. chicken pox or hand, foot & mouth disease with history of contact or known current circulation of virus

Routine clinical management, including providing red-flag advice

Other tests to consider:

- Extended respiratory viral panel
- Swab lesion for VZV/HSV/enterovirus
- Throat swab and stool for enterovirus
- Syphilis serology and PCR in neonate

Ask family to take photos on a daily basis

For full guidance on Mpox (monkeypox) in children and young people, see www.rcpch.ac.uk/monkeypox