Mpox is still around. There have been nearly 1,000 mpox cases reported in the US in 2023, including four cases in Connecticut with the most recent Connecticut case diagnosed in October.

- The mpox outbreak continues to disproportionately affect gay and bisexual men, other men who have sex with men, and gender diverse individuals.

In October 2023, the ACIP recommended routine use of the JYNNEOS vaccine for prevention of mpox in people aged 18 and older who are at risk for mpox.

- Find locations offering mpox vaccine in Connecticut on the DPH website.
- If you would like to offer the vaccine in your clinic, contact us at dph.mpox@ct.gov.
- The JYNNEOS vaccine is available for administration to persons younger than 18 under an FDA Emergency Use Authorization.
- Based on CDC estimates, only one third of Connecticut residents at risk have been fully vaccinated.

Key messages that patients need to know about the vaccine include the following. The National Coalition of STD Directors offers an mpox communications toolkit with creative content to help convey these messages (example below).

- The vaccine is safe and effective.
- Two doses of the vaccine offer the best protection. (Providers are encouraged to follow up with patients in need of a second dose!)
- Being fully vaccinated is a good way to protect yourself, the people you care about, and your lifestyle.
- The mpox vaccine is free to patients. Your insurance may be billed if it covers mpox vaccine.

Mpox testing is available at the Connecticut State Public Health Laboratory (SPHL) and some commercial laboratories. Instructions to collect and submit specimens to SPHL are online.

Information about accessing tecovirimat (TPOXX) to treat mpox is also available online.

Sydney A. Jones, PhD
Career Epidemiology Field Officer
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Assigned to Connecticut Department of Public Health
410 Capitol Avenue, MS #11EPI, P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308
P: 860-509-7994 | E: sydney.jones@ct.gov
Mobile: 860-250-1153