The spread of monkeypox, like that of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, has been accompanied by misinformation, some of which stigmatizes members of particular demographic groups.

As has been the case through the more than two years of the coronavirus pandemic, CUNY is committed to providing its students, faculty and staff with the reliable information and sound, up-to-date guidance they need to protect themselves and their families and prevent monkeypox from spreading on our campuses.

**Monkeypox** is a viral infection that causes flu-like symptoms and rashes. It can vary in severity but, thankfully, it is only rarely life-threatening. The virus spreads mainly through close, physical contact with someone who is infected. Data from the current outbreak thus far indicate that certain populations are being affected more than others, including men who have sex with men. But anyone can get it.

Health officials advise that anyone who believes they have been exposed or experiences the rashes or lesions characteristic of monkeypox should contact their health care provider for an assessment and possible treatment with an antiviral medication. There are also vaccines that can help reduce the chance and severity of infection for people who have recently been exposed to the virus or those in high-risk groups. You can find information about who is currently eligible for vaccines and how to schedule one by visiting [here](#).

Learn about monkeypox, how to avoid infection and what to do if you get it by visiting the links below.

- NYS Department of Health
- NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- World Health Organization