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SCPH Media Contact Phone Number: (330) 812-3700

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Summit County Reports first case of Monkeypox in a Summit County Resident**

[Akron, OH] –Summit County Public Health reports the first confirmed case of monkeypox in a Summit County resident with out of State exposure. The individual’s case is associated with out of State travel and there are no direct contacts to the case residing in Summit County. The individual will complete their isolation period out of State.

Monkeypox can spread to anyone through close, personal, often skin-to-skin contact, including:

- Direct contact with monkeypox rash, scabs, or body fluids from a person with monkeypox.
- Touching objects, fabrics (clothing, bedding, or towels), and surfaces that have been used by someone with monkeypox.
- Contact with respiratory secretions.

This direct contact can happen during intimate contact, including:

- Oral, anal, and vaginal sex or touching the genitals (penis, testicles, labia, and vagina) or anus (butthole) of a person with monkeypox.
- Hugging, massage, and kissing.
- Prolonged face-to-face contact.
- Touching fabrics and objects during sex that were used by a person with monkeypox and that have not been disinfected, such as bedding, towels, fetish gear, and sex toys.

A person with monkeypox can spread it to others from the time symptoms start until the rash has fully healed and a fresh layer of skin has formed. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks.

Monkeypox Symptoms include:

People with monkeypox get a rash that may be located on or near the genitals (penis, testicles, labia, and vagina) or anus (butthole) and could be on other areas like the hands, feet, chest, face, or mouth.





- The rash will go through several stages, including scabs, before healing.
- The rash can initially look like pimples or blisters and may be painful or itchy.

Other symptoms of monkeypox can include:

- Fever
- Chills
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Exhaustion
- Muscle aches and backache
- Headache
- Respiratory symptoms (e.g. sore throat, nasal congestion, or cough)

You may experience all or only a few symptoms

- Sometimes, people have flu-like symptoms before the rash.
- Some people get a rash first, followed by other symptoms.
- Others only experience a rash.

Public health experts advise the following precautions to avoid contracting monkeypox:

- Avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like monkeypox.
- Avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with monkeypox has used.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially before eating or touching your face and after using the bathroom.
- Testing is the best way to determine if an infection is monkeypox. Contact your health care provider if you have a new rash or have had close contact with someone who may have monkeypox.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention do not recommend the monkeypox vaccine for the general public. The vaccine is available for people who have been exposed to monkeypox or are at high risk for exposure.





1867 West Market St. | Akron, OH 44313-6901 | P: (330) 923.4891 | TF: (877) 687.0002 | F: (330) 923.7558

**scph.org**

Currently, Ohio has a very small supply of vaccine to help prevent monkeypox. The vaccine is being given to communities with the most cases to help limit spread.

Visit our website at <https://www.scph.org/monkeypox> for additional information.

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