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US declares monkeypox virus as Public Health Emergency

05 August 2022 | News

HHS has shipped more than 602,000 doses of the JYNNEOS vaccine to states and jurisdictions



The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has announced the ongoing spread of monkeypox virus in the US as a Public Health Emergency (PHE). The action will further strengthen and accelerate the Biden-Harris Administration's response in recognition of the continued rapid transmission of monkeypox in the US and globally, and to signal the seriousness and urgency with which the administration is responding.

The PHE declaration is in concert with the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) work to explore new strategies that could help get vaccines to affected communities across the country, including using the new dose-sparing approach that could increase the number of doses available, up to five-fold.

The public health emergency also carries important implications for data sharing with the federal government. Fifty-one jurisdictions have already signed data use agreements that will provide the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with information related to vaccine administration.

HHS has shipped more than 602,000 doses of the JYNNEOS vaccine to states and jurisdictions, an increase of 266,000 in the past week. HHS has allocated 1.1 million doses to states and jurisdictions in total and is making more doses available as jurisdictions use their current supply. HHS also announced that it has accelerated the delivery of an additional 150,000 doses to arrive in the US next month. The doses, which were slated to arrive in November will now arrive in the US in September.