



# Monkey Pox Evolving Situation



a) early vesicle,  
3mm diameter



b) small pustule,  
2mm diameter



c) umbilicated pustule,  
3-4mm diameter



d) ulcerated lesion,  
5mm diameter



e) crusting of a mature  
lesion



f) partially removed  
scab

### What is it?

- Virus similar to smallpox, predominantly in Central and West Africa.
- Increasing numbers in UK
- Spread is airborne/ direct contact with an infected human/ animal or contaminated material.

### Case definition

- Link to confirmed or probable case in the 21 days prior to symptom onset **OR** travel to west or central Africa in 21 days before symptom onset **OR** gay/ bisexual man who has sex with men
- Patient has an unexplained vesicular pustular rash on any part of their body
- Fever >38.5 degrees C
- Intense headaches
- Myalgia/arthralgia/ back pain/lymphadenopathy
- A rash appears within 1-5 days, often starting on face or genitals, spreading to palms and soles of feet.
- Diagnosis is difficult, often confused with chicken pox
- Treatment is supportive, the disease is usually self limiting

### What do I need to do in ED?

- **Establish a process to screen for symptoms and risk factors when booking in/ triage**
- **PPE—FFP3, eye protection, full length gown for suspected cases**
- **Exclude pregnant staff/ clinically vulnerable staff from contact with patient**
- **Isolation room for suspected cases, negative or neutral pressure ventilation if possible**
- **Liaise with local team re testing processes**
- **All patients that require testing need discussion with the Imported Fever Service—08447788990**
- **Review cleaning and disposal of waste process**

**For Safety Alerts and RCEM issued Safety Flashes see:**

**<https://rcem.ac.uk/safety-3/>**