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Maine Health Alert Network (HAN) System

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT

To: All HAN Recipients
From: Dr. Isaac Benowitz, State Epidemiologist
Subject: **Temporary Updates to the Notifiable Diseases and Conditions List: Monkeypox Now a Reportable Condition in Maine**
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Temporary Updates to the Notifiable Diseases and Conditions List: Monkeypox Now a Reportable Condition in Maine

Background: Reporting of notifiable diseases and conditions is required under 22 M.R.S., Chapter 250, §802 and §822. Failure to report could result in preventable morbidity or mortality. Maine CDC is authorized to advise through publicly noticed Health Alerts the public health need for the temporary reporting of any disease or condition in the state of Maine in order to study and control any apparent outbreak or unusual occurrence of communicable diseases.

This Health Alert serves as notice for a temporary change to the Notifiable Diseases and Conditions List:

- Any confirmed case of **monkeypox** is immediately reportable to Maine CDC within 24 hours; and
- All **monkeypox** or **non-variola orthopoxvirus** test results (positive or negative) are reportable to Maine CDC within 24 hours.

All results should be reported electronically as required by statute. These changes will remain in effect for a period of one year and may be reassessed at any time.

As previously noted, swab samples for monkeypox testing can be sent to Maine CDC's Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) or to a commercial laboratory. Currently there are several commercial labs that offer monkeypox testing; other labs are expected to become available in coming weeks and months.

For more information:

- Maine CDC monkeypox website: www.maine.gov/dhhs/monkeypox
- Maine CDC notifiable conditions rule: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/disease-reporting/documents/notifiable-conditions-rule-2-17-2021.pdf>