



Epi Update for Friday, June 3, 2022

Office of the Public Health Medical Director
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's Epi Update include:

- Update on monkeypox in the U.S., guidance for requesting laboratory testing
- *Cyclospora* positive stool? Send it to SHL!
- Infographic: Laboratory process for monkeypox virus
- Meeting announcements and training opportunities

Update on monkeypox in the U.S., guidance for requesting laboratory testing

Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with monkeypox virus, a member of the *Orthopoxvirus* genus. It is a zoonotic virus and is endemic to countries in central and western Africa. Previous cases outside this region have been associated with travel or direct contact with another person who has monkeypox disease.

As of June 2, 790 cases of monkeypox have been identified in 28 countries that do not normally see monkeypox cases, including 20 cases in the U.S. No cases have been identified in Iowa.

Clinicians must report suspected monkeypox cases to IDPH as soon as monkeypox is suspected and prior to collecting specimens. IDPH will consult with CDC and SHL to determine the need and plan for laboratory testing.

- Contact IDPH by calling 515-242-5935 during business hours or 515-323-4360 outside of business hours.
- Contact SHL by calling 319-335-4500 or 1-800-421-4692.

SHL can test for *Orthopoxvirus* by real-time PCR. SHL will forward additional specimen(s) to CDC for confirmatory monkeypox testing.

For more information from CDC on the current monkeypox response, visit www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/response/2022/index.html.

Cyclospora positive stool? Send it to SHL!

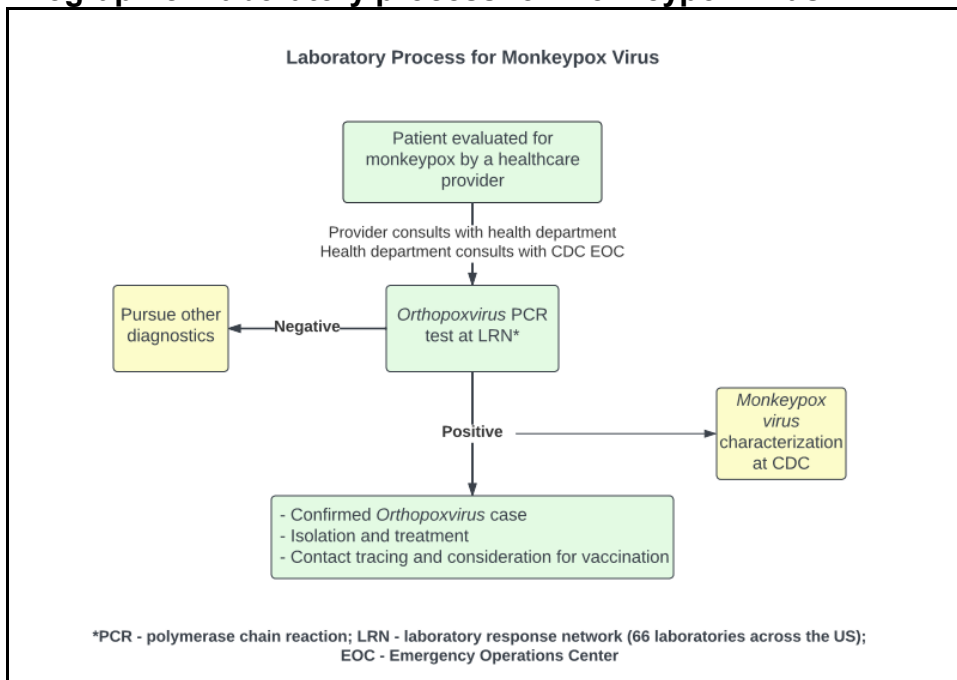
SHL and IDPH are asking clinical labs that detect *Cyclospora* in stool specimens to forward the sample to SHL for genotyping at CDC. This request is being made as part of a national effort to better track and detect *Cyclospora* outbreaks in real-time.

Specimens must be preserved in Total Fix, ProtoFix, PVA, Cary-Blair, or ETM. Samples preserved in formalin are unacceptable for genotyping. To submit a specimen for *Cyclospora* genotyping, navigate to the SHL Test Request Form Page (<http://shl.uiowa.edu/testmenu/formgenerator.xml>) and select the “Mycobacteriology/Mycology/Parasitology” Test Request Form. Scroll down and select your facility, then click submit. Complete the form with all relevant patient and specimen information. Select the “Modified Acid-Fast Smear for Parasites” test and write “positive *Cyclospora* and the preservative”.

Questions regarding *Cyclospora* reporting should be directed to IDPH at 515-242-5935. Questions regarding *Cyclospora* testing should be directed to the Microbiology Section at SHL, 319-335-4335.

For more information about *Cyclospora*, visit www.cdc.gov/parasites/cyclosporiasis/index.html.

Infographic: Laboratory process for monkeypox virus



To view in full size, visit www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/pdf/Monkeypox-lab-process.pdf.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

On Tuesday, June 7, CDC is leading a discussion, *Antifungal Resistance: Understanding this Growing Global Threat*, to better understand factors influencing the rise in antifungal resistance across One Health and the proper treatment of fungal infections. Topics include how to address the increasing burden of *Candida auris*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, and dermatophytes (a type of fungi that can cause superficial infections on skin, hair, and nails). To register, visit <https://info.rescueagency.com/webinar-cdc-antifungal-resistance>.

Have a healthy and happy week!

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology
800-362-2736

Bureau of HIV, STD, and Hepatitis
515-281-6801