In Re: Monkeypox Virus Reporting – Ohio Revised Code 3701.23

Director’s Journal Entry

I, Bruce Vanderhoff, MD, MBA, Director of the Ohio Department of Health, in accordance with my authority set forth in 3701.23 of the Ohio Revised Code, have determined that Monkeypox Virus ("MPV") is a disease posing a risk of human fatality or disability. Accordingly, I declare MPV a disease of significant public concern akin to the diseases listed in Ohio Adm. Code 3701-3-02(B).

To address the risk, I order health care providers, as defined in R.C. 3701.23(A), or any individual having knowledge of a person suffering from MPV, report the infection or suspected infection to the health district in which the patient resides (or the health district wherein the infection or suspected infection is being medically evaluated if the patient’s residence is unknown or not in Ohio) by the end of the next business day pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code 3701-3-05(B). Such health district shall report infections or suspected infections to the Ohio Department of Health pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3701.23 and Ohio Adm. Code 3701-3-06.

Reports are to be made to the local health district in which the person resides (or to the local health district wherein the person if the person’s residence is unknown or not in Ohio) by the physician in attendance of a known or suspected infection; by a person in charge of a hospital, clinic, or other institution providing the case treatment, having knowledge of the infection or suspected infection pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code 3701-03-03; by the person in charge of any laboratory that examines specimens for evidence of Monkeypox or Orthopoxvirus infection and determines the results of such examination to be positive pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code 3701-3-04; or by any individual having knowledge of a person suffering from MPV.

Physicians in attendance of a person presenting with illness that is clinically consistent with MPV, where an alternative diagnosis has not been determined or is unknown, should immediately contact their governing health jurisdiction to obtain the most current case definition and guidance for the management and containment of MPV.

All laboratories conducting business in Ohio and testing for MPV or Orthopoxvirus are to report all positive/detected and equivocal results to the local health district in which the person resides (or to the local health district wherein the person is being medically evaluated if the person’s residence is unknown or not in Ohio). If a medical laboratory outside this state performs a test or other diagnostic or investigative analysis that results in information pertaining to a resident of this state that must be reported under section 3701.23 or 3707.06 of the Revised Code, the entity using the laboratory shall ensure that the laboratory complies with reporting and confidentiality requirements and shall verify to the Director of Health that the laboratory complies with reporting and confidentiality requirements. R.C. 3701.231.
Reporting to ODH via electronic laboratory reporting meets the requirement to report to the local health district.

This Journal Entry shall be effective as of the date of signature and shall remain in full force and effect until further notice.

Bruce T. Vanderhoff, M.D., M.B.A.
Director of Health

07/27/22
Date

I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of the Journal Entry of the Director of the Ohio Department of Health.

7/27/22
Date

Michelle I. Webb
Custodian of the Director’s Journals
Ohio Department of Health