



## **Interim Case Definition for Animal Cases of Monkeypox**

### **Clinically Compatible Illness**

Rash (macular, papular, vesicular, or pustular; generalized or localized; discrete or confluent)  
Other possible signs and symptoms:

- Conjunctivitis
- Coryza
- Cough
- Anorexia
- Lethargy

### **Epidemiological Criteria**

- Originating from the shipment of rodents from Ghana to Texas on April 9, 2003 (i.e., Gambian giant rats, rope squirrels, tree squirrels, striped mice, brush-tailed porcupines, and dormice)
- Originating from a pet holding facility where wild or exotic mammalian pets<sup>1</sup> with suspect, probable, or confirmed monkeypox have been reported.
- Exposure<sup>2</sup> to a wild or exotic mammalian pet that has been diagnosed with suspect, probable, or confirmed monkeypox.
- Exposure<sup>2</sup> to a suspect, probable, or confirmed human case of monkeypox.

### **Laboratory Criteria**

- Isolation of monkeypox virus in culture
- Demonstration of monkeypox virus DNA by polymerase chain reaction testing in a clinical specimen
- Demonstration of virus morphologically consistent with an orthopoxvirus by electron microscopy in the absence of exposure to another orthopoxvirus
- Demonstration of presence of orthopox virus in tissue using immunohistochemical testing methods in the absence of exposure to another orthopoxvirus.

### **Case Classification**

#### ***Suspect Case***

- Meets one of the epidemiologic criteria, AND
- Rash OR two or more other signs or symptoms

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<sup>1</sup> Wild or exotic mammalian pets include prairie dogs, Gambian giant rats, rope squirrels, tree squirrels, striped mice, and dormice. Exposure to other exotic or non-exotic mammalian pets will be considered on a case-by-case basis; assessment should include the likelihood of contact with a mammal with monkeypox and the compatibility of clinical illness with monkeypox.

<sup>2</sup> Exposure includes living in a household as a human or a wild or exotic mammalian pet with monkeypox, or originating from the same pet holding facility as a wild or exotic mammalian pet with monkeypox.

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***Probable Case***

- Meets one of the epidemiologic criteria, AND
- Rash AND two or more other signs or symptoms

***Confirmed Case***

- Meets one of the epidemiologic criteria, AND
- Rash AND two or more other signs and symptoms, AND
- Meets one of the laboratory criteria

For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/monkeypox](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/monkeypox) or call the CDC public response hotline at (888) 246-2675 (English), (888) 246-2857 (Español), or (866) 874-2646 (TTY)

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