

## Mpox Control Recommendations for the Hospitality and Lodging Industry

December 8, 2022

*This guidance is for use by lodging providers who have had or currently have a guest with mpox.*

**Table 1. Mpox Guidelines to Follow after the Guest’s Stay**

The guidance in this table applies if the guest with mpox has left the lodging facility. Separate guidance is available if the guest is currently staying at the facility (Table 2).

<b>General Considerations</b>	<p>Use the guidelines below to clean the room while it is restricted to new guests.</p> <p>Staff who have a weakened immune system, who are pregnant or breastfeeding, or who have a history of atopic dermatitis or eczema are at high risk for severe mpox. These people should avoid tasks where they could contact the guest’s rash, scabs, body fluids, or contaminated objects, such as clothing, bedding, or towels.</p> <p>Personal protective equipment (PPE) is required to perform room cleaning and disinfection. Staff <b>MUST</b> cover arms and legs while cleaning the room with any of the options below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Cleanroom bunny suit/disposable coverall</li> <li>ii. Disposable long-sleeved gown which is long enough to cover the body</li> <li>iii. Clothing that covers arms and trunk that can be removed and laundered after cleaning the specified location</li> </ol> <p>Staff must also wear one-time use, disposable gloves that fit snugly around the wrist and a well-fitting mask or respirator, N-95 or KN95 mask.</p> <p>Clean room in the following order: (1) General Waste Containment, (2) Laundry, (3) Room Cleaning, and (4) Waste Disposal.</p>
<b>General Waste Containment</b>	<p>Collect and store soiled waste, such as bandages, tissues, food packaging, and other trash items in a sealed bag. Place the sealed bag in a dedicated, lined trash can. Discard unused items (e.g., toiletries, coffee filters, and disposable pens.)</p>
<b>Linens and Laundry</b>	<p>Before cleaning anything else, gather any clothing in the room. Remove bed linens, towels, and washcloths by gently folding and rolling bedding before placing it in a clean laundry bag. <b>Do not shake or handle laundry in a way that may spread germs.</b> Ensure the laundry bag reaches no more than ¾ of its capacity and receives placement in a separate area from other used linens. Launder all items that were in the room, including those not routinely laundered (e.g., mattress covers, comforters, bed skirts, shower curtains). Avoid contact with lesion material that may be present on laundry. Hold soiled laundry with arms extended away from the body.</p> <p><i>What to consider when washing soiled laundry:</i> Wear PPE when handling the linen before washing. Wash separately from additional laundry retrieved from other rooms and use the hottest wash cycle available. Follow label instructions and wash laundry with detergent. Avoid using eco and quick wash cycles. Clean the control switches and handle of the machine with the cleaning/disinfectant wipes provided in your isolation PPE pack after use. Lodging sites may opt to discard the linens as trash rather than wash them.</p>

<b>Cleaning and Disinfection</b>	<p>Utilize wet cleaning methods over dry cleaning methods. Clean and disinfect all hard surfaces in the room starting higher up (light switches, counters, chairs, etc.), eventually working your way down, and cleaning dirtier items last (e.g., toilets). Avoid cross-contamination with items or surfaces by not moving from an area that is not clean to a clean area.</p> <p>Use an EPA-registered disinfectant with an emerging viral pathogen claim. (List Q Link: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/disinfectants-emerging-viral-pathogens-evps-list-q">https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/disinfectants-emerging-viral-pathogens-evps-list-q</a>)</p> <p>Thoroughly disinfect items and surfaces that would have been in direct contact with the skin of the affected guest. Include disinfecting interior surfaces of refrigerator, freezer, other appliances, window pull, interior cabinet spaces, and drawers utilized by the affected guest. Properly wash, rinse and sanitize soiled non-disposable dishes and eating utensils using hot water, dish soap and a chemical sanitizer approved for food-contact surfaces</p> <p><i>Soft Furnishings:</i> Recommend steam cleaning carpets, drapes, mattresses, rugs, and upholstered furniture, if possible. Remove and disinfect/change the mattress cover depending on the type of material of the fabric. Pay particular attention to cleaning areas that have contact with an individual’s backside. If only minimal contact occurred, disinfect the soft furnishing surface with a surface-appropriate disinfectant.</p> <p><i>Carpet and Flooring:</i> To prevent the spread of infectious particles while dry dusting or sweeping, wet cleaning methods are preferred such as disinfectant wipes, sprays, and mopping. Leave the floor wet for the correct amount of contact time recommended by your EPA-registered disinfectant. Clean broom/mop stick along with mop head in between rooms.</p> <p>Vacuuming is acceptable if using a vacuum with a high-efficiency air filter. If not available, ensure the person vacuuming wears a well-fitting mask or respirator. Avoid vacuuming on initial cleaning of the room. Conduct a wet carpet clean before vacuuming to reduce dispersal of dry skin flakes in the air. Carefully remove the vacuum bag to prevent exposing yourself to the dust/debris, and consider additional caution when emptying a bagless vacuum so as not to inhale any dust/debris from the cylinder.</p>
<b>Waste Disposal</b>	<p>Waste management should continue as normal with the affected guest using a dedicated, lined trashcan in the room they are isolating. Seal any waste items (e.g., gloves, bandages, etc.) that have been in direct contact with skin of the affected guest in a plastic bag and place in a dedicated trash can.</p>
<b>Removing PPE</b>	<p>Staff should remove PPE in the room after finishing cleaning and place it immediately in the appropriate waste bin. Remove gown, gloves, and mask in the following order: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/ppe/ppe-sequence.pdf">https://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/ppe/ppe-sequence.pdf</a> and <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/resources/pdfs/poster-how-to-remove-gloves-P.pdf">https://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/resources/pdfs/poster-how-to-remove-gloves-P.pdf</a></p> <p>Wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and water after removing all PPE. If soap and water are not available, perform hand hygiene using an alcohol-based hand rub.</p>
<b>Lifting Room Restrictions</b>	<p>The next guest may check into the room after the cleaning and disinfecting process is complete, the linens have been replaced, and the previous waste has been disposed of.</p>
<b>Monitoring Exposed Staff</b>	<p>Staff who have been exposed to mpox should monitor for mpox symptoms for 21 days after their last exposure. For descriptions of exposures, see <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/monitoring.html">https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/monitoring.html</a>. For a list of symptoms, see <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/symptoms.html">https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/symptoms.html</a>.</p>

**Table 2. Mpox Guidelines to Follow during the Guest’s Stay**

The guidance in this table applies if the guest with mpox is currently staying at the lodging facility. Separate guidance is available if the guest has left the facility (Table 1).

	<b>Staff Considerations</b>	<b>Guest Considerations</b>
<b>General Considerations</b>	<p>If the affected guest has been advised not to travel back to the place of residence and does not need hospital care, the guest will need to stay at the facility until the health department says that it is safe to leave. While the guest is at the facility, ensure that waste from the room is removed daily, refresh linens and towels at least once every 7 days, and ensure the room is <i>maintained clean and in good condition</i>.</p> <p>Staff who have a weakened immune system, who are pregnant or breastfeeding, or who have a history of atopic dermatitis or eczema are at high risk for severe mpox. These people should avoid tasks where they could contact the guest’s rash, scabs, body fluids, or contaminated objects, such as clothing, bedding, or towels.</p>	<p>The affected guest will receive information about how to manage himself or herself during the isolation period. VDH recommends that people with mpox stay in the room (isolate) for the duration of illness.</p>
<b>Meals</b>	<p>Provide catered meals in disposable containers with disposable cutlery and ask food delivery services to leave meals/groceries outside of the door. Require staff to wear gloves and a well-fitting medical mask when collecting food waste.</p>	<p>Remind the guest to tie used food containers off in a plastic bag and place it outside the room for waste removal at the end of the day.</p>
<b>Laundry</b>	<p>Whenever possible, people with mpox should handle and launder their own soiled laundry.</p> <p>If the facility decides to wash the guest’s personal clothing, provide the guest with a bag or impermeable container that can be disinfected or laundered with items. Require staff to wear gloves and a well-fitting medical mask or respirator when collecting laundry bags. If laundering cannot be undertaken, provide the guest with plastic bags for used clothing.</p> <p>Wash separately from additional laundry retrieved from other rooms and use the hottest wash cycle available. <b>Do not shake or handle laundry in a way that may spread germs.</b> Follow label instructions and wash laundry with detergent.</p> <p>Avoid using eco and quick wash cycles. Clean the control switches and handle of the machine with a List Q EPA-registered product (<a href="https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/disinfectants-emerging-viral-pathogens-evps-list-q#search">https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/disinfectants-emerging-viral-pathogens-evps-list-q#search</a>).</p>	<p>Advise the guest to place the laundry bag in the bathroom, no more than ¾ full, until the guest notifies the staff that it is ready to be collected. Remind the guest not to shake linens because this could spread infectious particles.</p>

**Room  
Cleaning and  
Disinfection**

Provide the guest with a dedicated, lined trash can for the room.

If the guest uses an elevator, clean buttons with EPA-registered List Q product (<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/disinfectants-emerging-viral-pathogens-evps-list-q#search>).

Advise the guest to use a towel on soft furnishings (i.e. fabric covered sofas or chairs) to protect from direct skin contact and excessive drainage of fluids from rashes. Recommend routinely cleaning and disinfecting commonly touched surfaces and items (such as counters, light switches, surfaces of used appliances).

If the guest needs to leave the room, the guest should perform hand hygiene before leaving the room. The guest should wear a mask and clothing that covers lesions to prevent spreading mpox. Additional caution can be taken by avoiding recreational areas on the property, such as the pool and exercise rooms.

**Monitoring  
Exposed Staff**

Staff who have been exposed to mpox should monitor for mpox symptoms for 21 days after their last exposure. For descriptions of exposures, see <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/clinicians/monitoring.html>. For a list of symptoms, see <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/symptoms.html>.