



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

PRESS STATEMENT

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

2nd October 2024

UPDATE ON THE MPOX OUTBREAK IN KENYA

The Ministry of Health remains vigilant and committed to providing timely and accurate updates on the ongoing Mpox outbreak in Kenya. In light of the evolving situation, I wish to share the current status and remind the public of the critical role we all play in preventing the spread of this virus. As we continue to strengthen our public health response, it is imperative that every citizen remains informed and follows the recommended safety measures.

The country has recorded one (1) new Mpox case in the last 24 hours, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to **nine (9)**. The new case is a male aged 37 years who works as a truck driver and had travelled to Rwanda and Uganda. The case was detected by our surveillance team in Nakuru county. The **nine (9)** confirmed cases are distributed across the following counties: Nakuru (2), Taita Taveta (1), Busia (1), Nairobi (1), Mombasa (1), Makueni (1), Kajiado (1), and Bungoma (1). The Ministry wishes to report that no deaths have been registered among the confirmed cases.

Our surveillance efforts remain robust, and the Ministry has traced **68** contacts, 61 of whom have been monitored for the recommended 21-day period, and the remaining seven (7) contacts are being monitored by our public health teams in the respective counties and Community Health Promoters (CHPs). Only one (1) of the contacts tested positive for Mpox during the monitoring period. Additionally, the Ministry continues to screen travellers at all Points of Entry (POEs). In the last 24 hours alone, **15,541** travellers were screened, raising the total of travellers screened across **26** POEs to **1,128,976**. The National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) has received and tested **227** samples to date, with nine (9) confirmed positive, **211** testing negative, and **7** are being tested.

To mitigate the spread of Mpox, we urge all citizens to observe the following preventive measures:

1. Avoid close physical contact with infected individuals or persons showing symptoms of Mpox.
2. Do not touch items such as bedding or clothing that have been used by an infected individual.
3. Limit the number of sexual partners to reduce the risk of exposure.
4. Wash hands regularly with soap and water, or use alcohol-based hand sanitiser.
5. Avoid contact with wild animals and refrain from consuming bushmeat.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all Kenyans for their cooperation in implementing the measures to combat this outbreak. Vigilance remains key in protecting our communities from the spread of Mpox. By staying informed and adhering to recommended measures, we can collectively control this outbreak.

For further inquiries or to report suspected Mpox cases, please contact the Ministry through our emergency hotline numbers: **719, 0729471414, or 0732353535.**

Further updates will be shared as more information becomes available.



Dr. Deborah M. Barasa
CABINET SECRETARY