



# National Public Health Institute Of Liberia

Preventing and Controlling Public Health Threats  
Congo Town Back Road, Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa

*Office of the Director-General*

*Press Release*

## **Public Alert: Public Alert: Outbreak of Monkeypox in Liberia**

**Monrovia, Liberia, July 25, 2022:** The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Health and National Public Health Institute of Liberia wishes to inform the public of an outbreak of Monkey Pox in Liberia.

**On 23<sup>rd</sup> July**, the National Public Health Reference Laboratory confirmed a positive case of Monkey Pox. The World Health Organization have been duly notified about the confirmed case in line with the International Health Regulations (2005) protocol. This is the second time Monkey Pox has been confirmed in Liberia. The first time was in 2018 by USCDC.

Monkeypox, previously thought to be endemic only in West and Central Africa, is now being reported outside Africa in other regions around the world. Reasons for this unusual pattern are unknown currently. As of July 22, 2022, the World Health Organization has reported 16,000 confirmed cases globally from 70 countries in North America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia. Monkeypox is a rare viral zoonotic disease with symptoms in humans like smallpox. These include, fever, headache, muscle pains, blistering rash, and swollen lymph. It is transmitted from animal to human through contact and from human to human through respiratory droplets, contact with lesions and other body fluid.

Currently, NPHIL has heighten surveillance in Maryland and adjacent counties as well as at all ports of entry. To complement current efforts from the health authorities, the public is advised of the following:

- Avoid contact with animals that could harbor the virus including animals that are sick or that have been found dead
- Report any skin disease or strange illness that looks like chicken pox
- Report all cases of individuals presenting with fever, headache, muscle pains, blistering

rash, and swollen lymph

- Immediately isolate anyone showing the above signs and symptoms and contact the health authorities

The Incident Management System has been activated and will inform the public about the next steps.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Hon. Jane A. MaCauley  
**Director General**

