

Making Sense of Monkeypox & Meningococcus among MSM

Christopher Hurt, MD, FIDSA

03 August 2022



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- **National Clinician Consultation Center** – provides free, peer-to-peer, expert advice for health professionals on HIV prevention, care, and treatment and related topics. Learn more: <https://nccc.ucsf.edu>
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Disclosures

- This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number U1OHA30535 as part of an award totaling \$4.2m. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit: <https://www.hrsa.gov>
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The views expressed are not necessarily those of HRSA or the NIH.

- Describe epidemiological trends in cases of meningococcus and monkeypox in the US.
- Explain how meningococcus and monkeypox may be transmitted person-to-person.
- Recognize key clinical features of meningococcus and monkeypox.
- Discuss evidence-based approaches to prevention of these two infections, including the role of immunization.

Please be aware this presentation includes some graphic images



What do these pathogens all have in common?

Hepatitis A virus

Hepatitis B virus

Campylobacter

Salmonella

Shigella

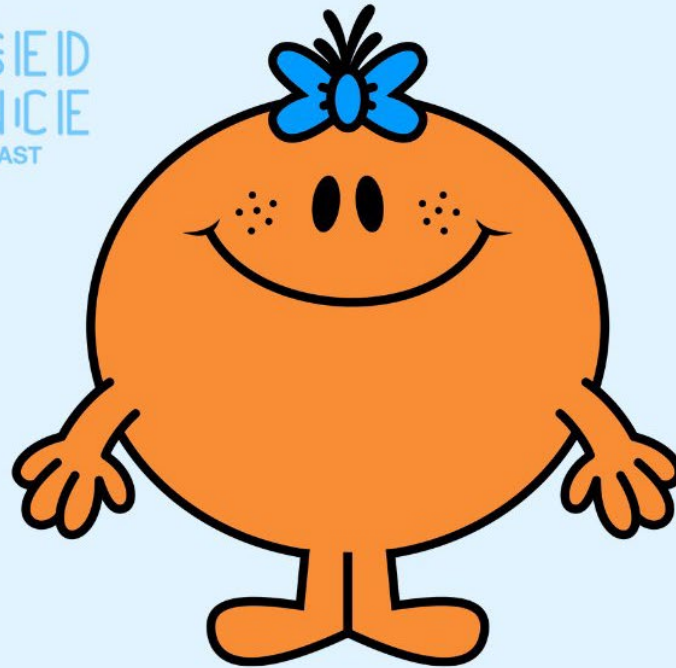
Giardia

MRSA

Monkeypox

LITTLE MISS KNOWS THAT MONKEYPOX IS NOT AN STI

THE
UNBIASED
SCIENCE
PODCAST



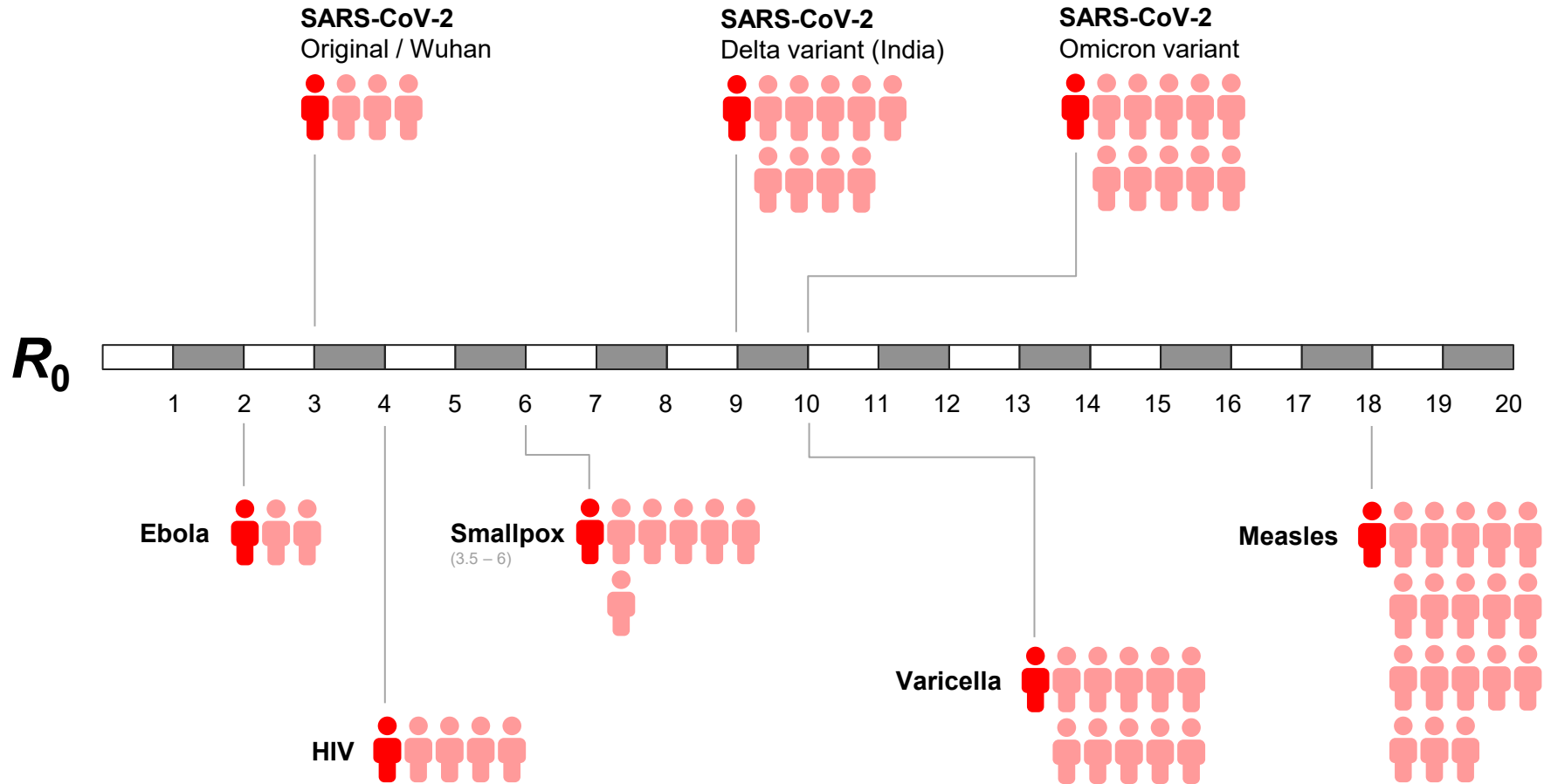
**IT'S SPREAD BY CLOSE PHYSICAL
CONTACT WITH LESIONS.**

**Words matter.
Choose them carefully.**

R_0

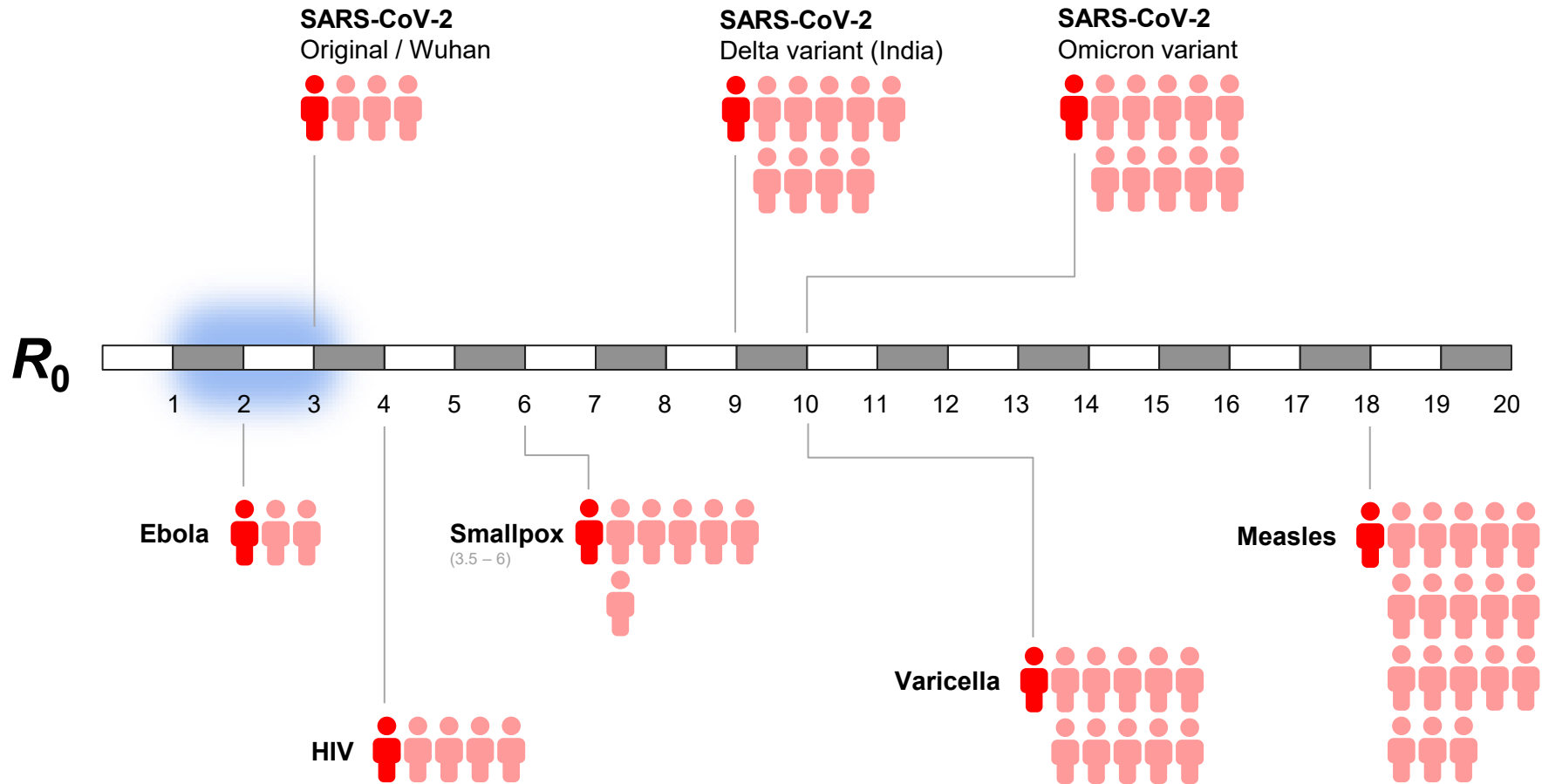
Comparing R_0 for different infections

R_0 is an estimate of how many additional people will become infected after exposure to an “index” case



R_0 for meningococcus (serogroup C) is 1.5 - 3

R_0 is an estimate of how many additional people will become infected after exposure to an “index” case



Based on → <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2021/08/11/1026190062/covid-delta-variant-transmission-cdc-chickenpox>

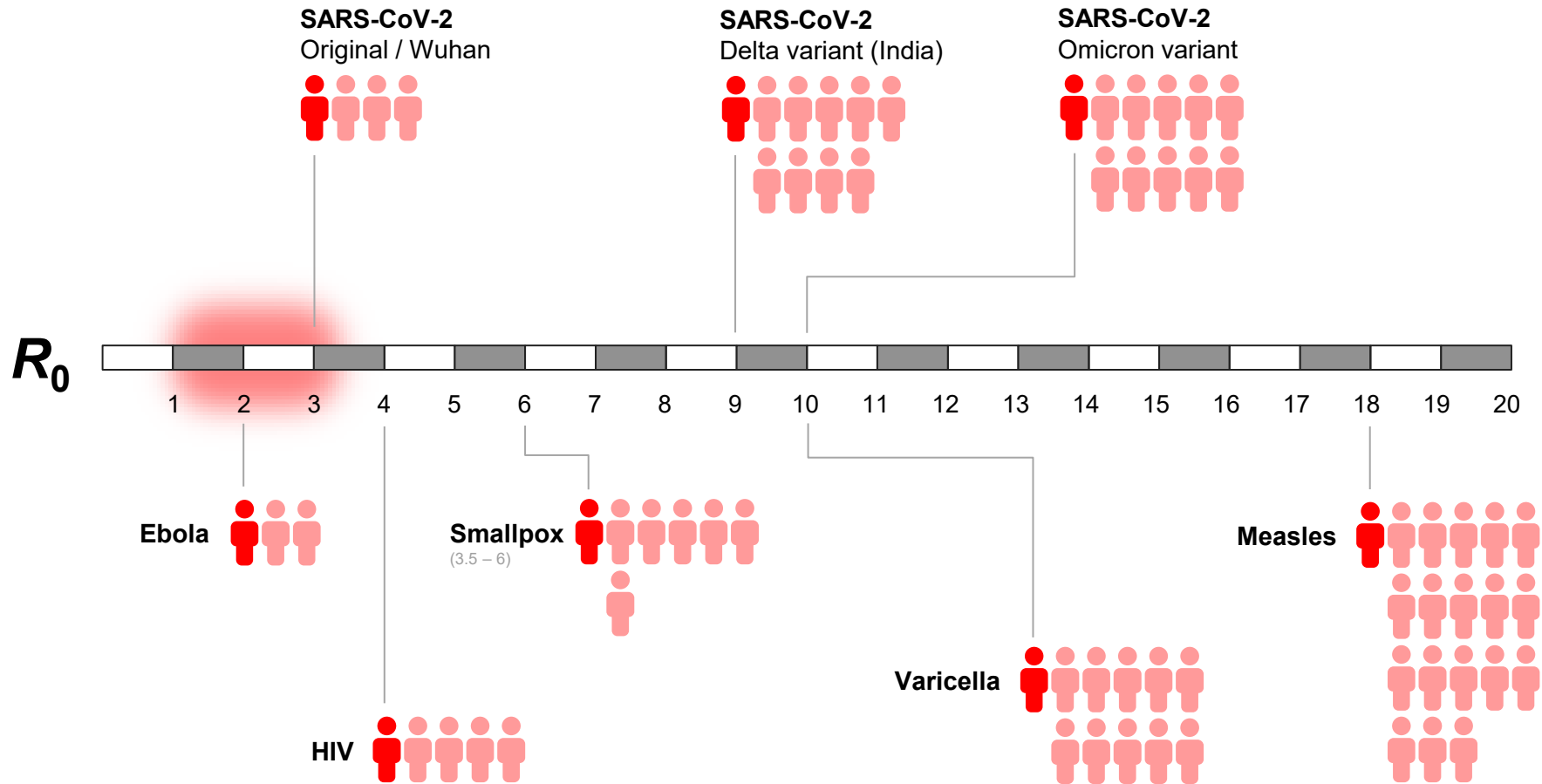
Omicron reproductive number → [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/article/PIIS2213-2600\(21\)00559-2/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/article/PIIS2213-2600(21)00559-2/fulltext)

Smallpox in naïve population → Gani R, Leach S. Nature. 2001 Dec 13;414(6865):748-51. PMID: 11742399

Meningococcus → Trotter CL, et al. Am J Epidemiol. 2005 Jul 1;162(1):89-100. PMID: 15961591 **AND** Lo Presti A, et al. Infect Genet Evol. 2020 Oct;84:104360. PMID: 32407793

R_0 for monkeypox in Congo was 1.5 to 3 (1966-1984)

R_0 is an estimate of how many additional people will become infected after exposure to an “index” case



Based on → <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2021/08/11/1026190062/covid-delta-variant-transmission-cdc-chickenpox>

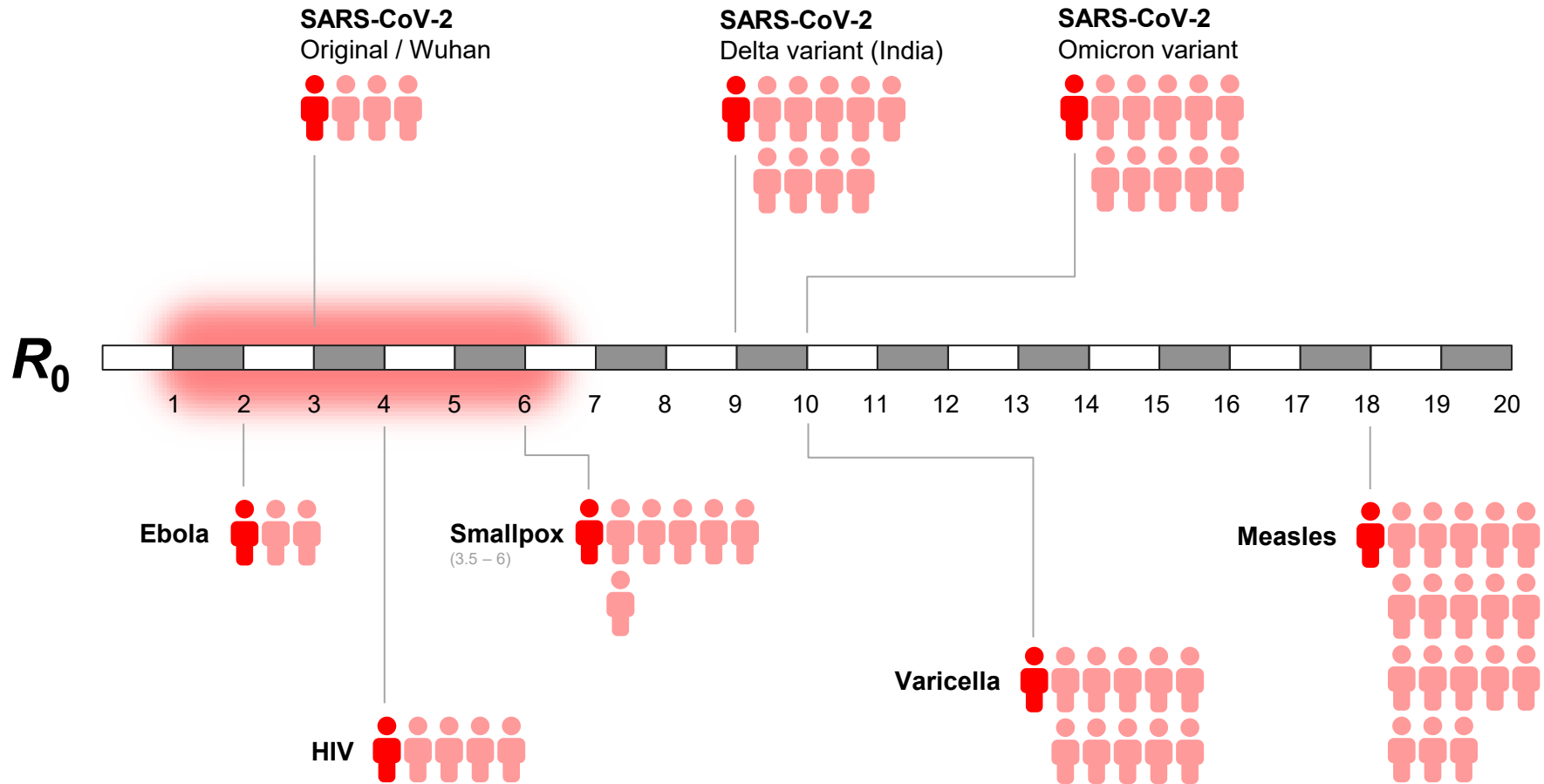
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Smallpox in naïve population → Gani R, Leach S. Nature. 2001 Dec 13;414(6865):748-51. PMID: 11742399

Monkeypox historical data → Grant R, Nguyen LL, Breban R. Bull World Health Organ. 2020 Sep 1;98(9):638-640. PMID: 33012864; PMCID: PMC7463189

R_0 for 2022 monkeypox outbreak may be 1.3 – 6

R_0 is an estimate of how many additional people will become infected after exposure to an “index” case

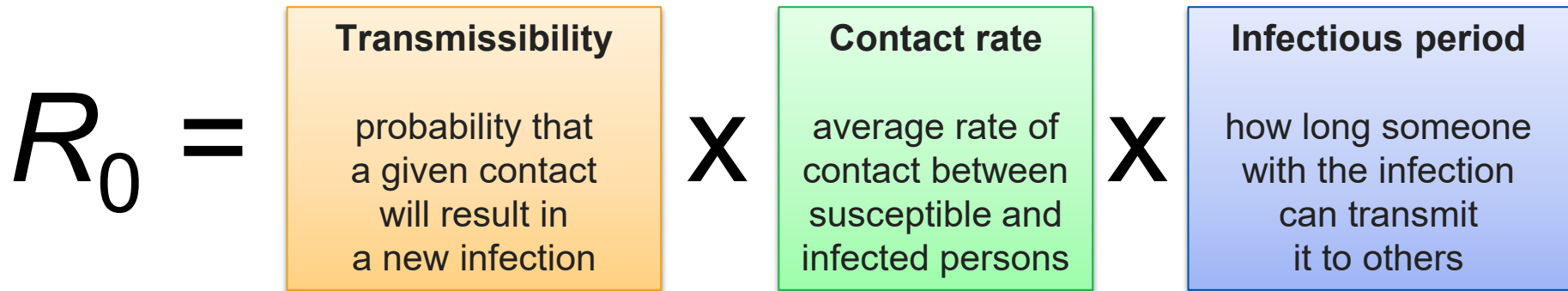


Based on → <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2021/08/11/1026190062/covid-delta-variant-transmission-cdc-chickenpox>

Omicron reproductive number → [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/article/PIIS2213-2600\(21\)00559-2/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/article/PIIS2213-2600(21)00559-2/fulltext)

Smallpox in naïve population → Gani R, Leach S. Nature. 2001 Dec 13;414(6865):748-51. PMID: 11742399

2022 monkeypox secondary case estimates → Bisanzio D, Reithinger R. Lancet Microbe. 2022 Jun 23;S2666-5247(22)00183-5. PMID: 35753315; PMCID: PMC9225111



Basic reproductive number

$R_0 =$

Transmissibility

probability that a given contact will result in a new infection

X

Contact rate

average rate of contact between susceptible and infected persons

X

Infectious period

how long someone with the infection can transmit it to others

Monkeypox

50%

household attack rate in Congo



?

≥ 21d

AFTER symptom onset

Meningococcus

0.3 - 0.6%

household attack rates

?

~10d

starting 7 days BEFORE symptom onset

"For men who have sex with men, this includes, for the moment, reducing your number of sexual partners, reconsidering sex with new partners and exchanging contact details with any new partners to enable follow-up, if needed."

- Tedros Ghebreyesus, PhD
WHO Director-General
25 July 2022



The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

‘Not enough shots’: U.S. faces ‘vaccine cliff’ on monkeypox

As many as 1 million high-risk men may be unable to get two Jynneos doses for months



By Dan Diamond

Updated July 30, 2022 at 1:15 p.m. EDT | Published July 30, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. EDT



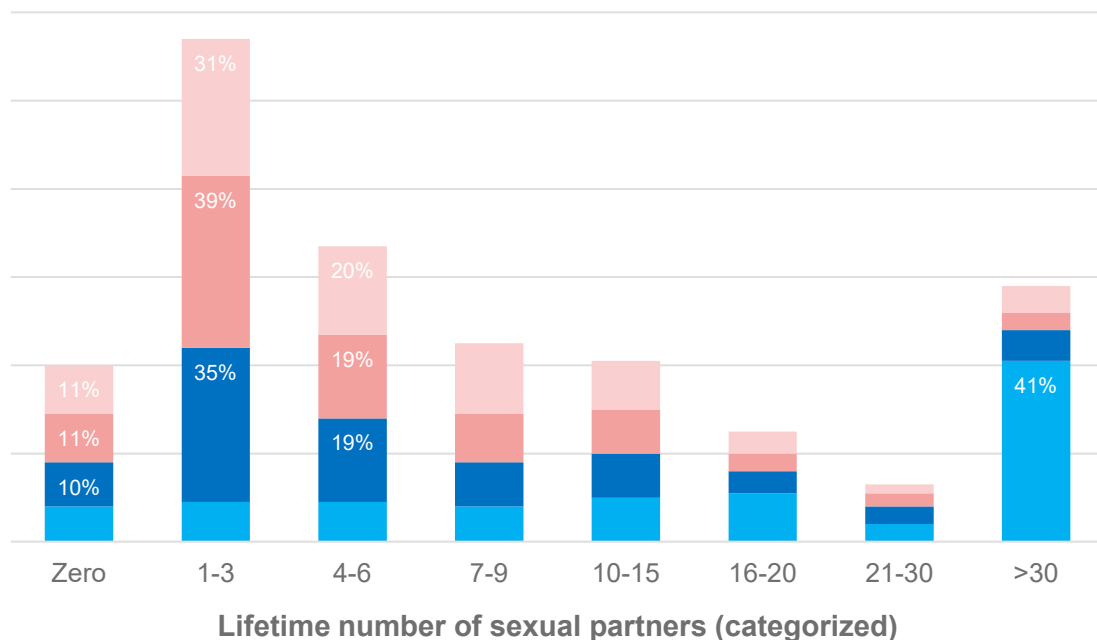
Monkeypox vaccines shown at the Salt Lake County Health Department in Salt Lake City on Thursday. (AP Photo/Rick Bowmer)

“The next shipment of 500,000 Jynneos doses from Bavarian Nordic, the Denmark-based manufacturer, is **not expected until the end of October** amid heavy global demand, said two administration officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly.”

MSM have more lifetime sexual partners, on average

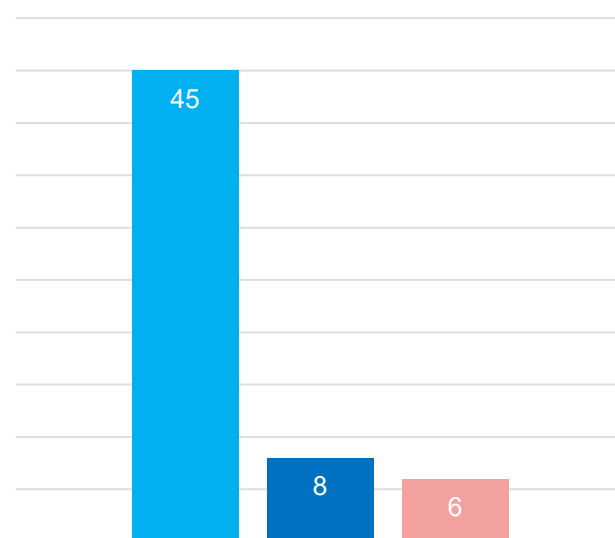
Proportions reporting different numbers of lifetime sexual partners among respondents ages 18-60, by self-identified sexual orientation (2014)

■ MSM ■ MSW ■ WSM ■ WSW



Median number of lifetime sexual partners among respondents, ages 18-39 (1996-2006)

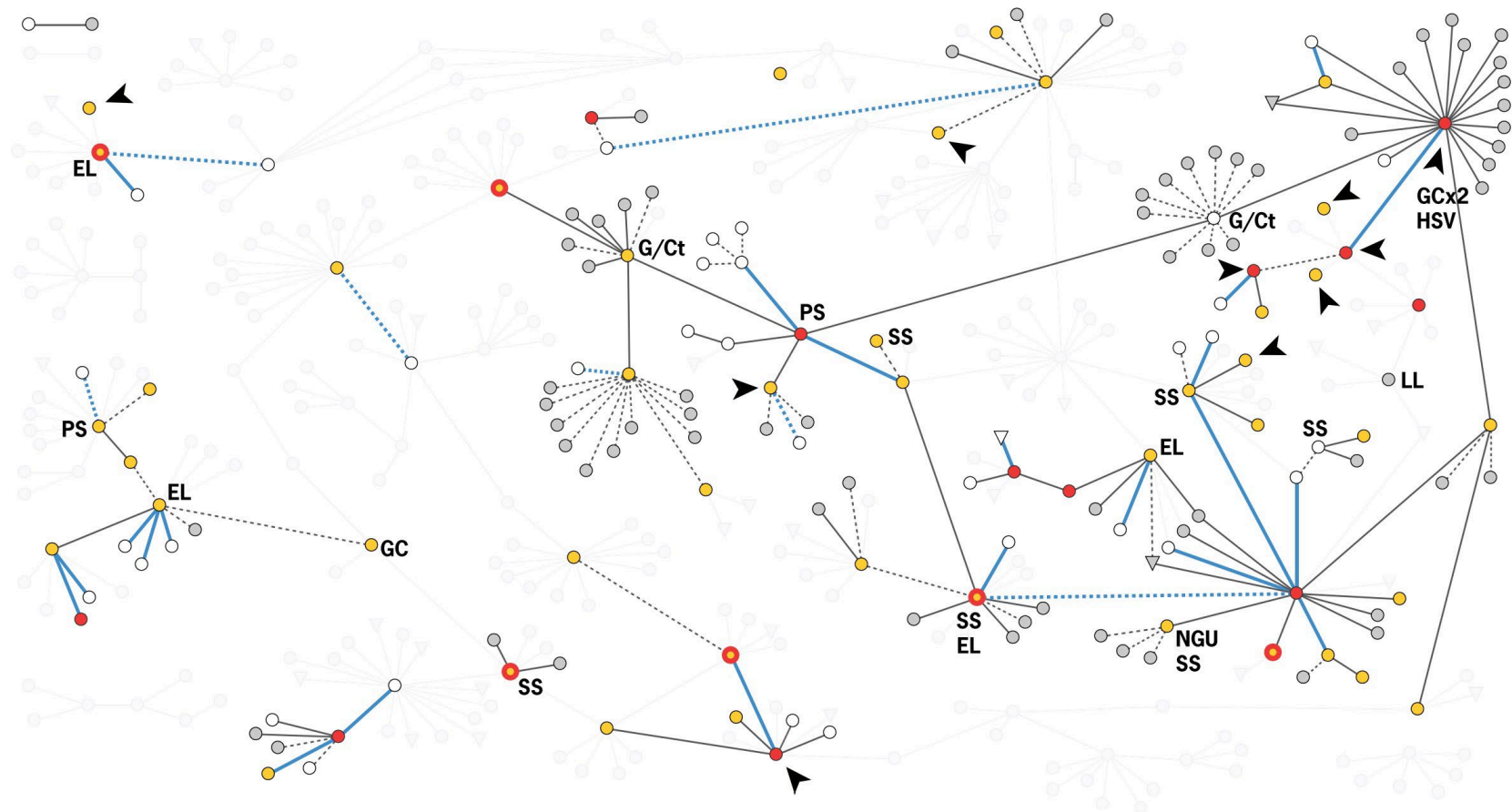
■ MSM ■ MSW ■ WSM



Data from 3 random-digit dialing surveys (1996-98, 2003-2004, 2006)

Network structures influence STI outbreaks

Key factor: density of nodes around hubs who are infectious (cores)

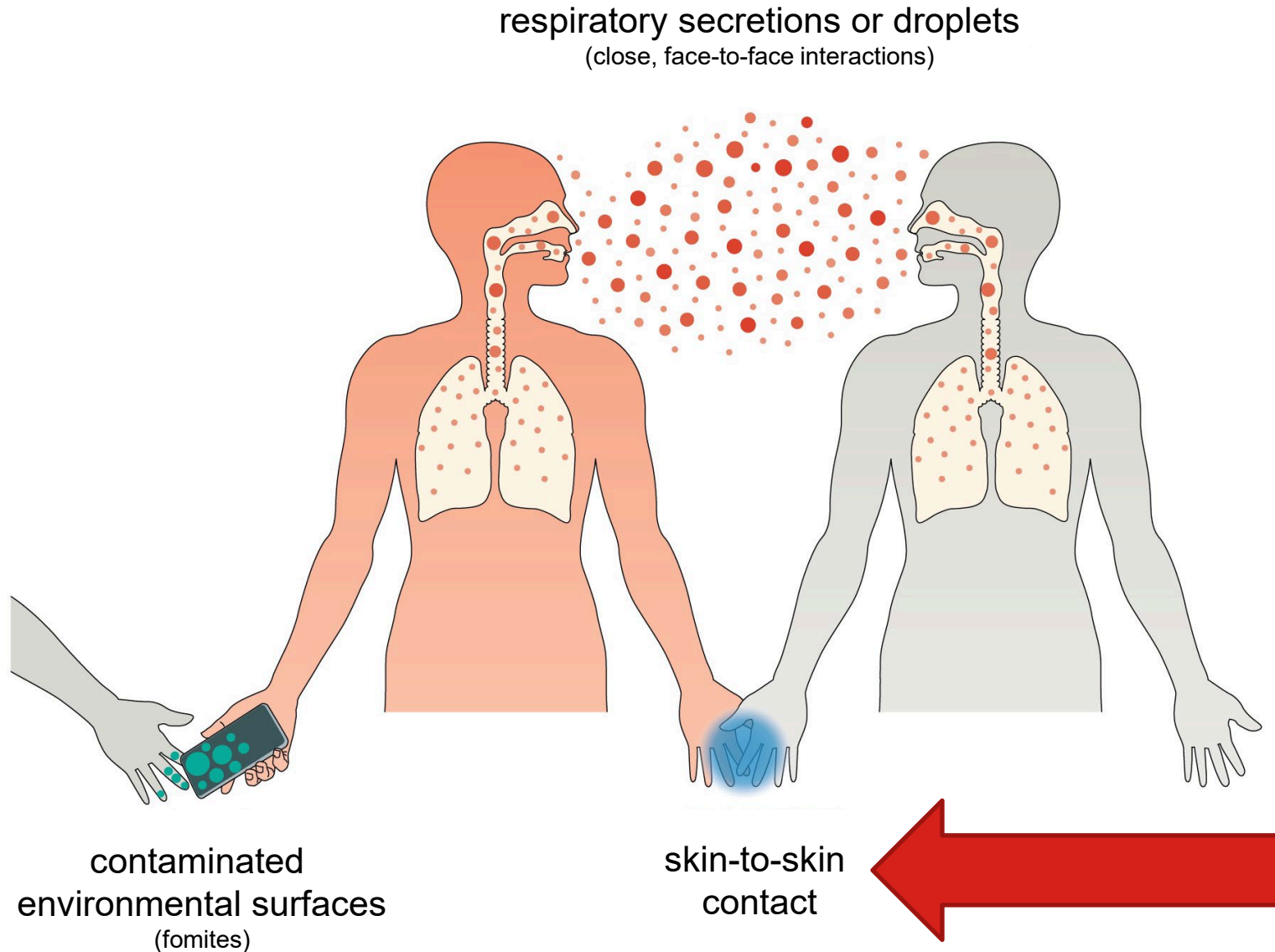


○ Uninfected male ▽ Uninfected female ● HIV-infected, chronic ● HIV-infected, acute ● HIV-infected, previously acute ● HIV status unknown
— Sexual relationship, new - - - Sexual relationship, ongoing — Serodiscordant relationship, new - - - Serodiscordant relationship, ongoing ► Seroconverter

2009-2010, North Carolina

Monkeypox

Monkeypox has 3 modes of transmission



Different forms of contact, different risks

MOST RISKY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct contact with the infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids• Sexual or intimate contact (please note that condoms do not protect against Monkeypox transmission)
MORE RISKY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kissing• Cuddling• Dancing at a crowded party <i>inside</i> with non-fully clothed people
POSSIBLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing drinks• Sharing a bed, towels, or personal toiletry items• Dancing at a crowded party <i>inside</i> with fully clothed people
UNLIKELY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dancing at a party <i>outside</i> with mostly clothed people• Coworker-to-Coworker transmission• Trying on clothing at a store• Touching a doornob• Traveling in an airport or on a plane• In a swimming pool, hot tub, or body of water• In public restrooms or on public transit• At a grocery store or coffee shop or a gym (via equipment)

Updated as of 07/27/22 | Contact your PCP or local health authority for more information.



Gaining ground in Africa for decades



Central African Republic
South Sudan
Congo
Democratic Republic of the Congo

Sierra Leone
Côte d'Ivoire
Liberia
Nigeria
Cameroon
Congo
Central African Republic
Democratic Republic of the Congo

- Country reporting human monkeypox cases
- Country reporting monkeypox in animals
- Not applicable

2000–2009

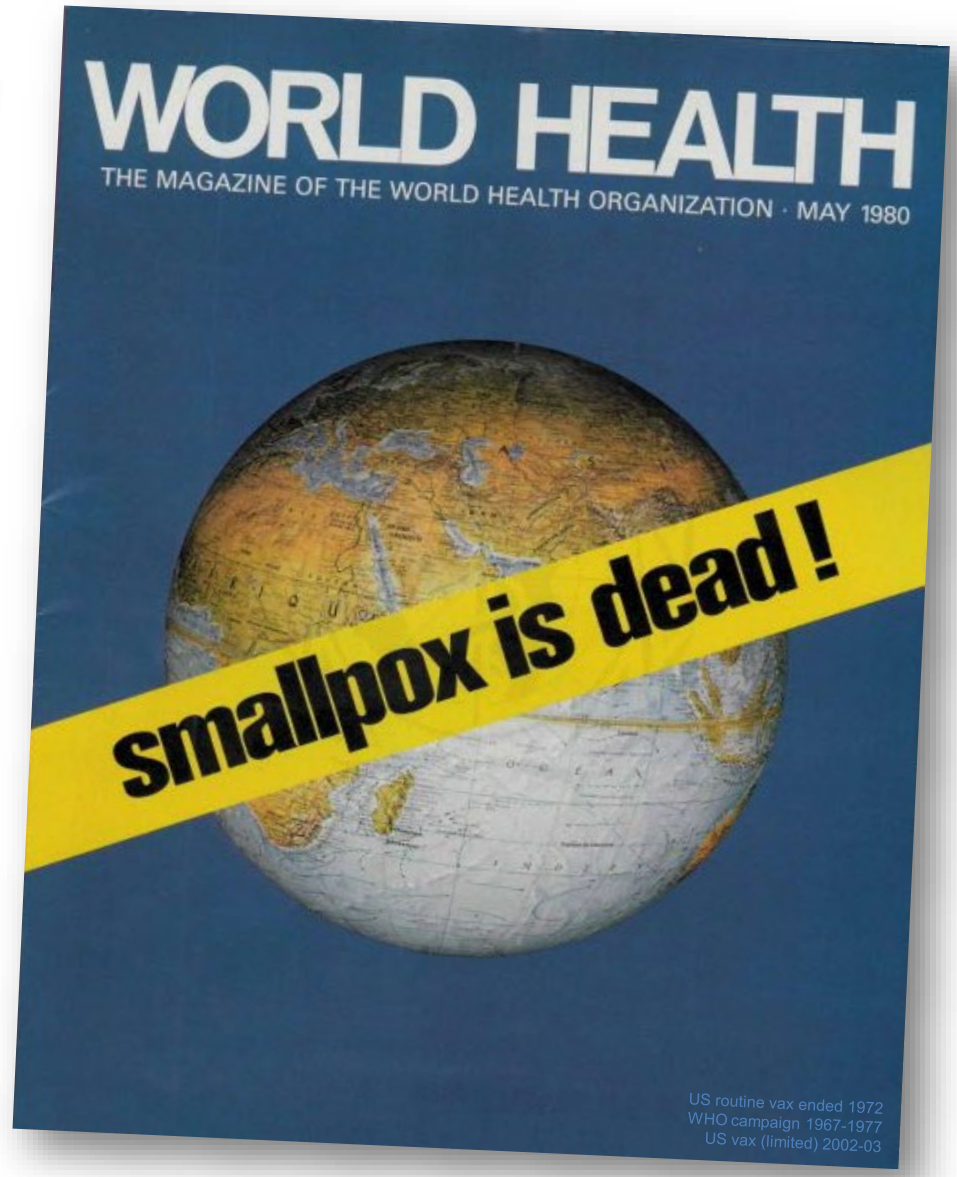
2010–2017



MAP → Durski KN, et al. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2018 Mar 16;67(10):306-310. PMID: 29543790; PMCID: PMC5857192
CHILD → Rimoin AW, et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2010 Sep 14;107(37):16262-7. PMID: 20805472; PMCID: PMC2941342

ANIMALS → [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congo_rope_squirrel#/media/File:Congo_rope_squirrel_\(Funisciurus_congicus\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congo_rope_squirrel#/media/File:Congo_rope_squirrel_(Funisciurus_congicus).jpg) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red-legged_sun_squirrel#/media/File:Red-legged_sun_squirrel_\(Heliosciurus_rufobrachium\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red-legged_sun_squirrel#/media/File:Red-legged_sun_squirrel_(Heliosciurus_rufobrachium).jpg) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dormouse#/media/File:Graphiurus_spec_murinus-1.jpg

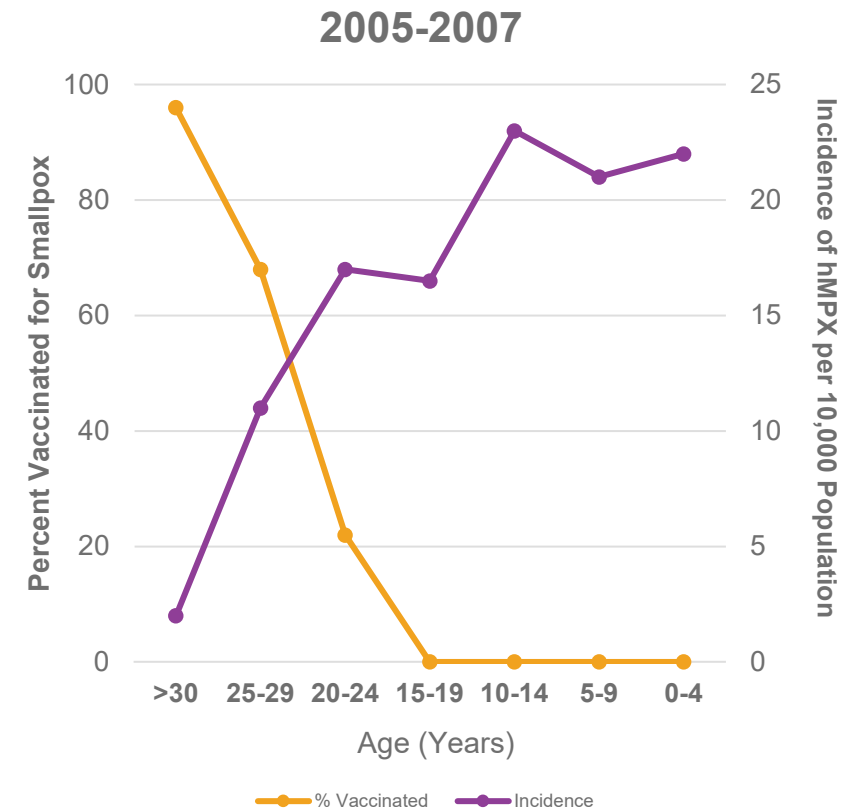
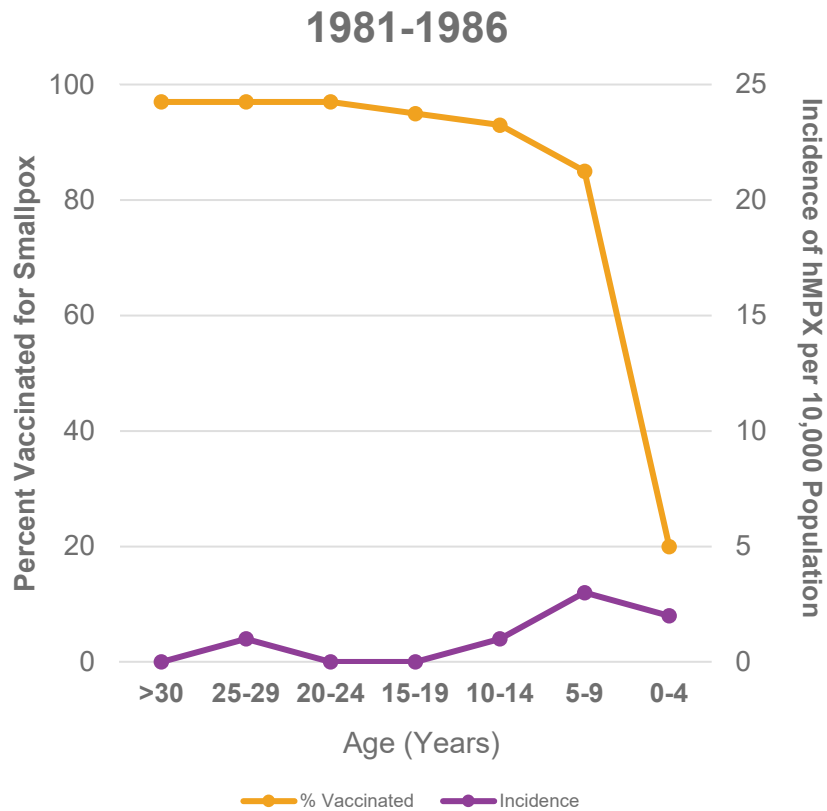
Smallpox vaccination offered cross-protection



TOP LEFT → <https://www.npr.org/2022/05/20/1099830501/smallpox-covid-vaccine-eradication-who>
BOTTOM LEFT → https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Allan_Warner_photograph_of_two_boys_with_smallpox_%28Atlas_of_Clinical_Medicine,_Surgery_and_Pathology,_1901%29_%28cropped%29.jpg
Bifurcated needle → <https://globalhealthnow.org/object/bifurcated-needle>
Magazine cover → <https://twitter.com/DrJennersHouse/status/1242041235331780608>

Monkeypox cases rose as smallpox immunity fell

Monkeypox Incidence and Smallpox Vaccine Coverage, Kole Health Zone, DRC



Health inequity is the root cause of our outbreak

NEWS | 23 June 2022

Monkeypox in Africa: the science the world ignored

African researchers have been warning about monkeypox outbreaks for years. As vaccines are deployed globally, they worry they will be left behind.



SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

EPIDEMIOLOGY

'Their Lives Are Worth More Than Ours': Experts in Africa Slam Global Response to Monkeypox

Earlier action by the World Health Organization and Western countries could have helped control monkeypox in Africa

By Paul Adepoju on July 27, 2022

Global spread of the West African clade (2022–)



01 May 2022

Global spread of the West African clade (2022–)

30



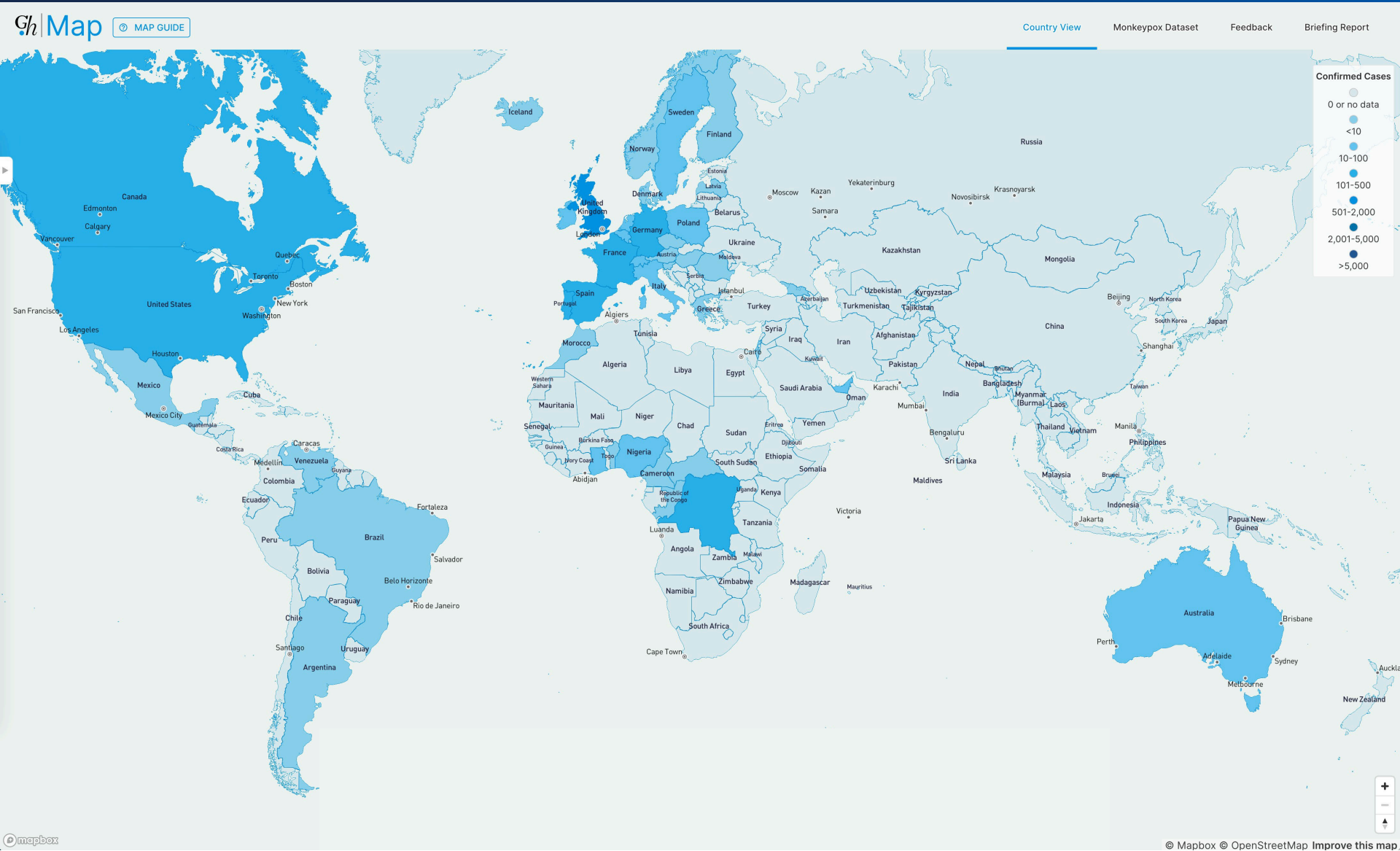
15 May 2022

Global spread of the West African clade (2022–)



01 June 2022

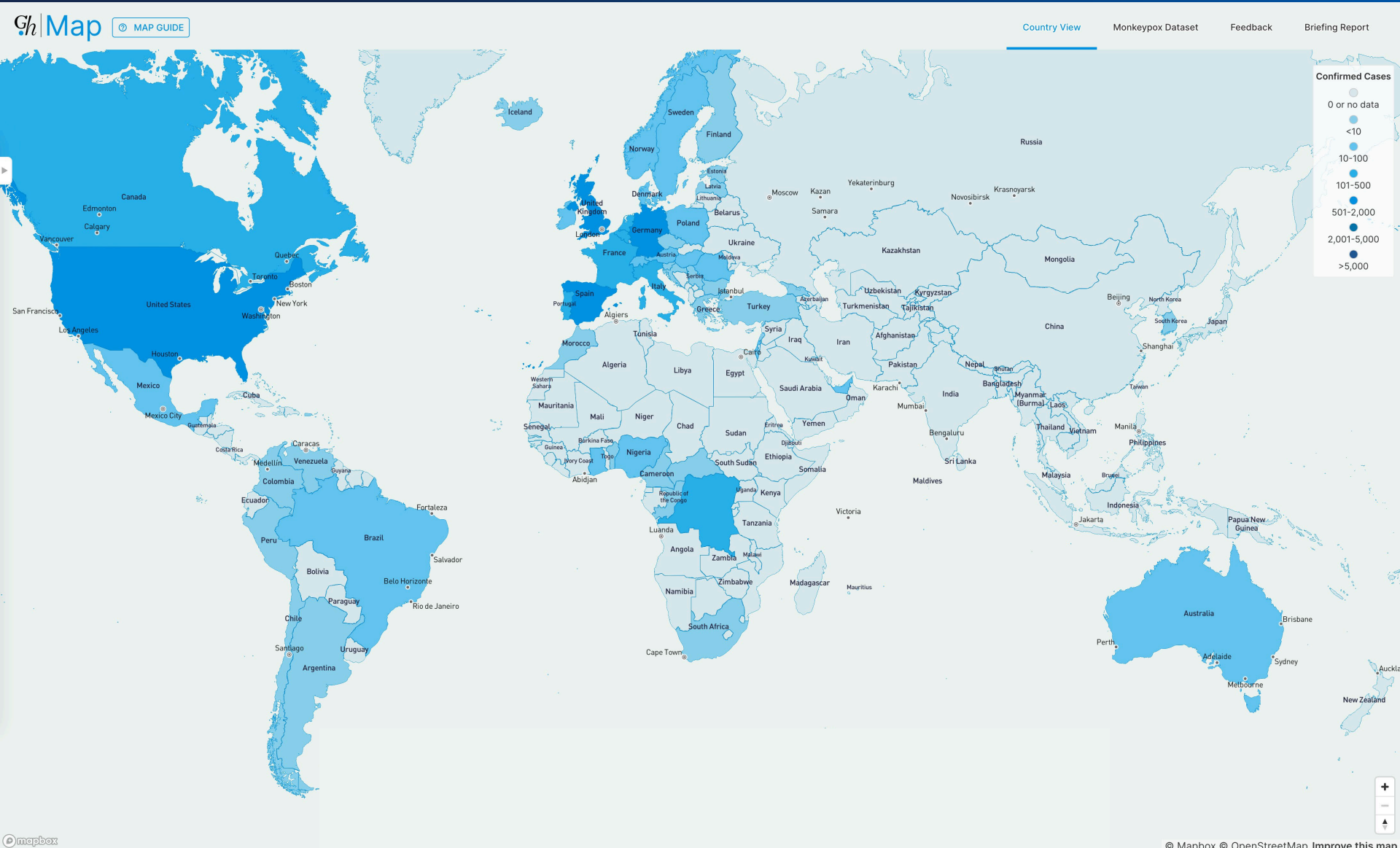
Global spread of the West African clade (2022–)



15 June 2022

Global spread of the West African clade (2022–)

33

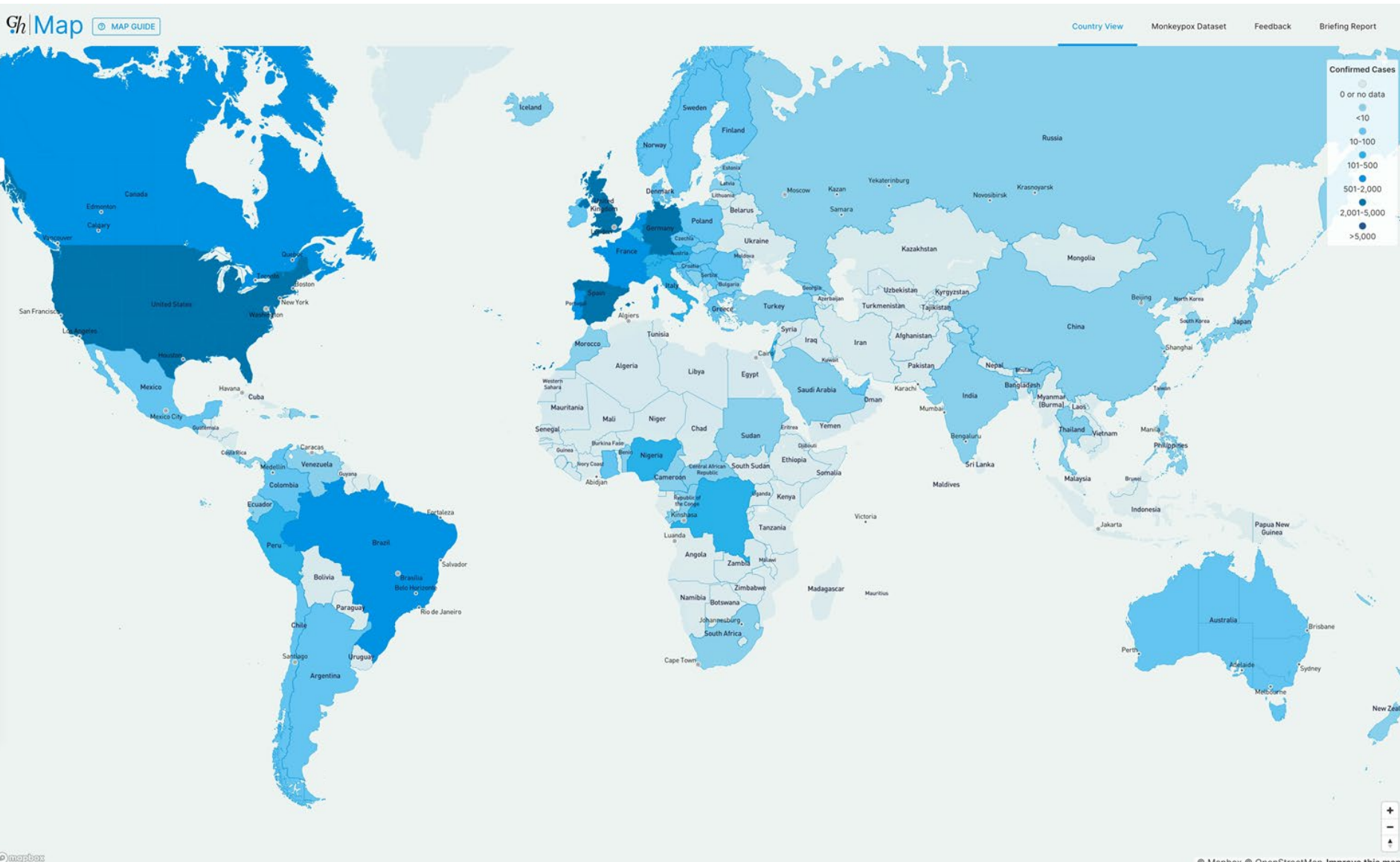


Global spread of the West African clade (2022–)



15 July 2022

Global spread of the West African clade (2022–)

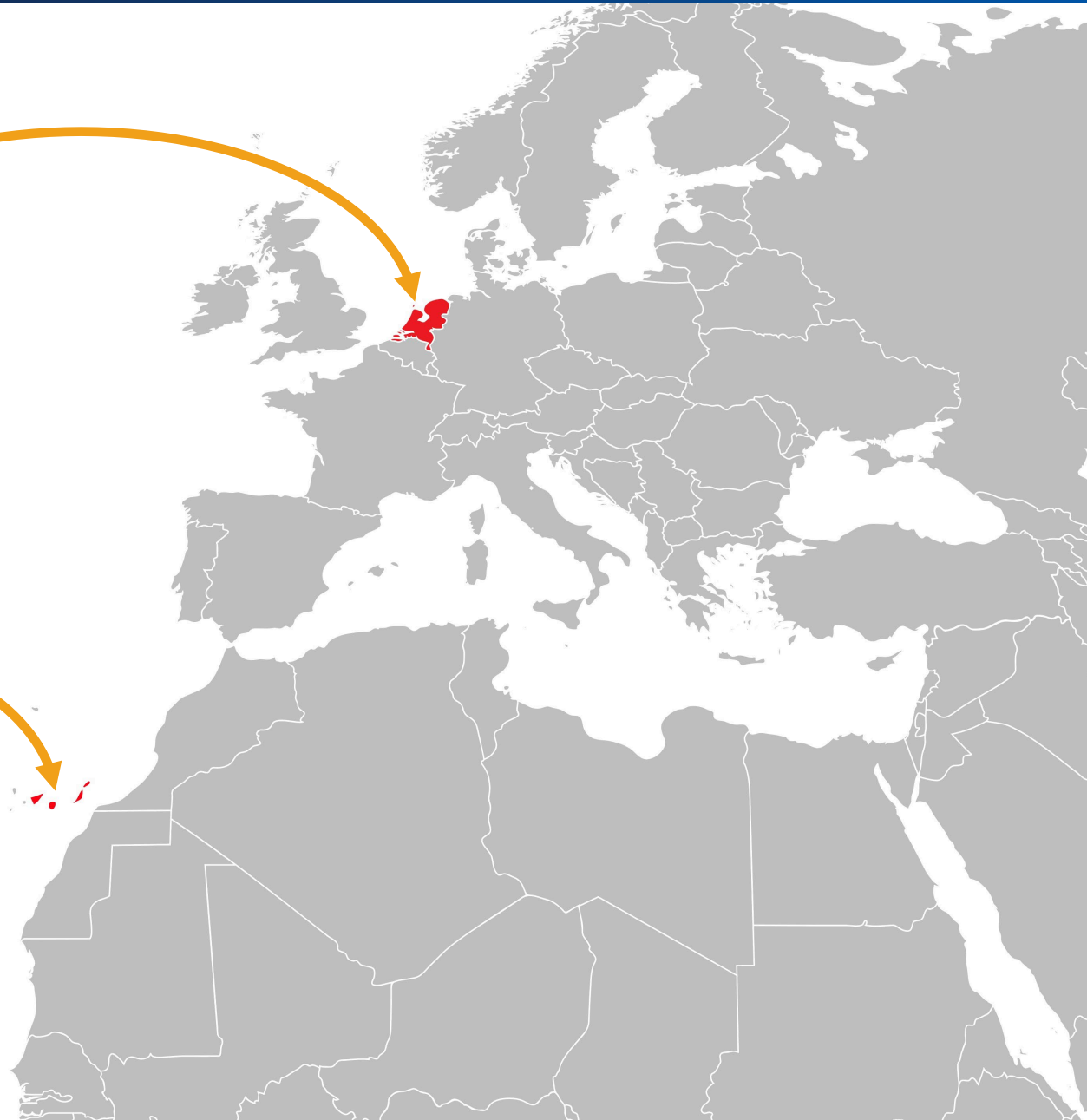


31 July 2022

Two events were epidemiologically linked to early cases



Gran Canaria, 5-15 May



“Classical”

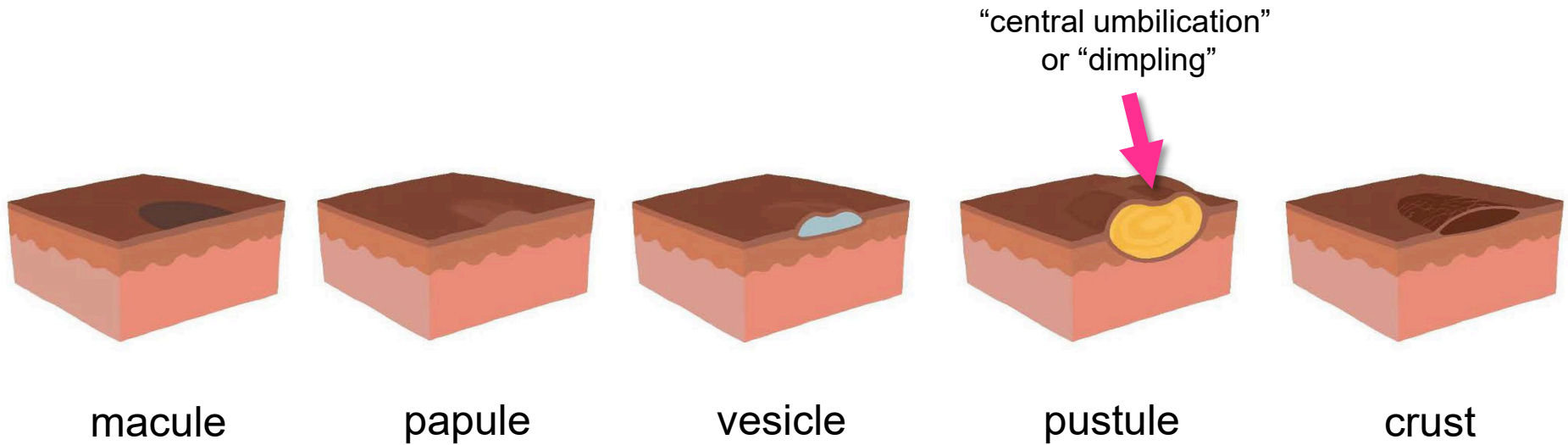
- 7-14d incubation (silent)
- Days 0-5: fever, malaise, intense headache, loss of energy, **tender lymph node enlargement**
- Within 3d of fever onset, **“centrifugal” rash** that progresses predictably from macules to crusts (face 95%, palms/soles 75%, oral mucosa 70%)
- **Painful skin lesions (100s-1000s) of similar size and stage/maturity**
- Case fatality rate around 3%

Current outbreak

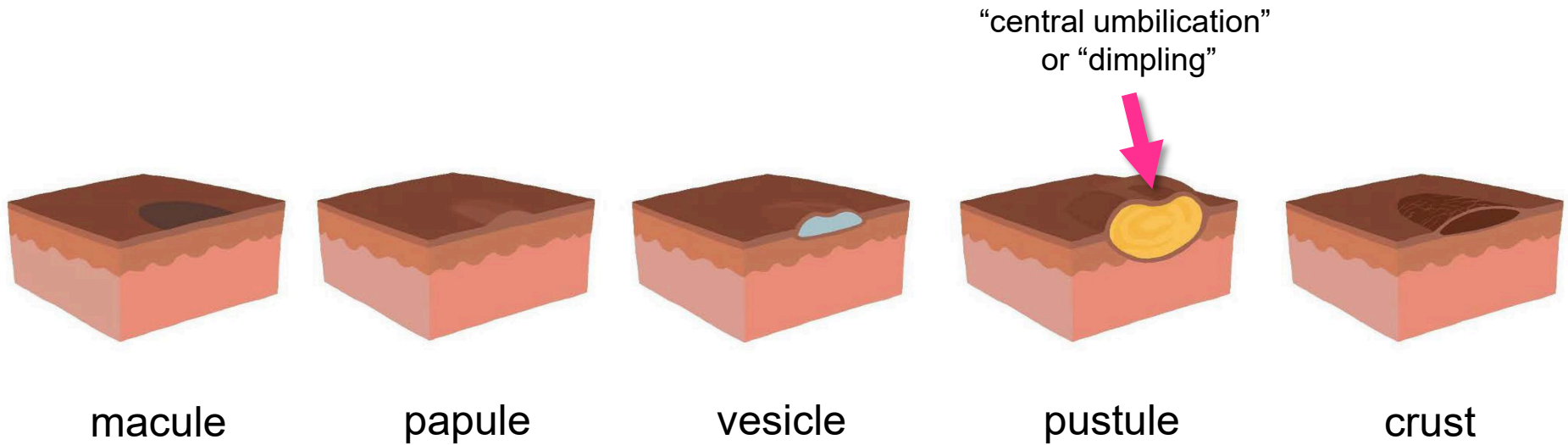
- 4-17d incubation (mean 8.5d)
- **Absent or delayed prodrome**
- Variable skin presentations
 - Focal crops in/around mouth, perianal area, genitals, body
 - Some cases with no external lesions
- **Asynchrony of lesion stages**
- Relatively few lesions in total
- **Similar with or without HIV**
- **Three deaths (of ~23K cases)**

Patients are contagious until new skin has replaced lesion crusts

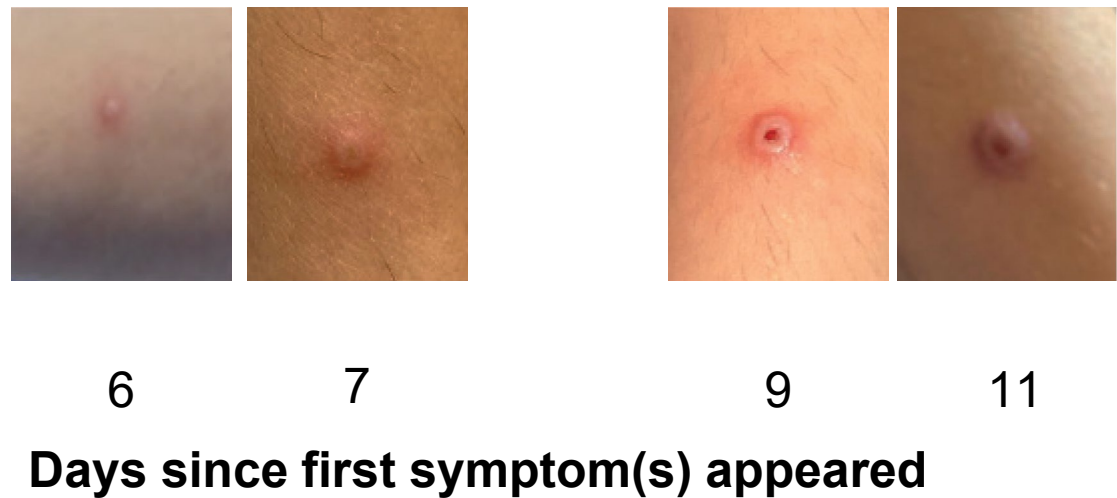
Progression of monkeypox lesions



Progression of monkeypox lesions



Rapid evolution from macule to scab



Representative monkeypox skin lesions



a) early vesicle,
3mm diameter



b) small pustule,
2mm diameter



c) umbilicated pustule,
3-4mm diameter



d) ulcerated lesion,
5mm diameter



e) crusting of a mature
lesion



f) partially removed
scab

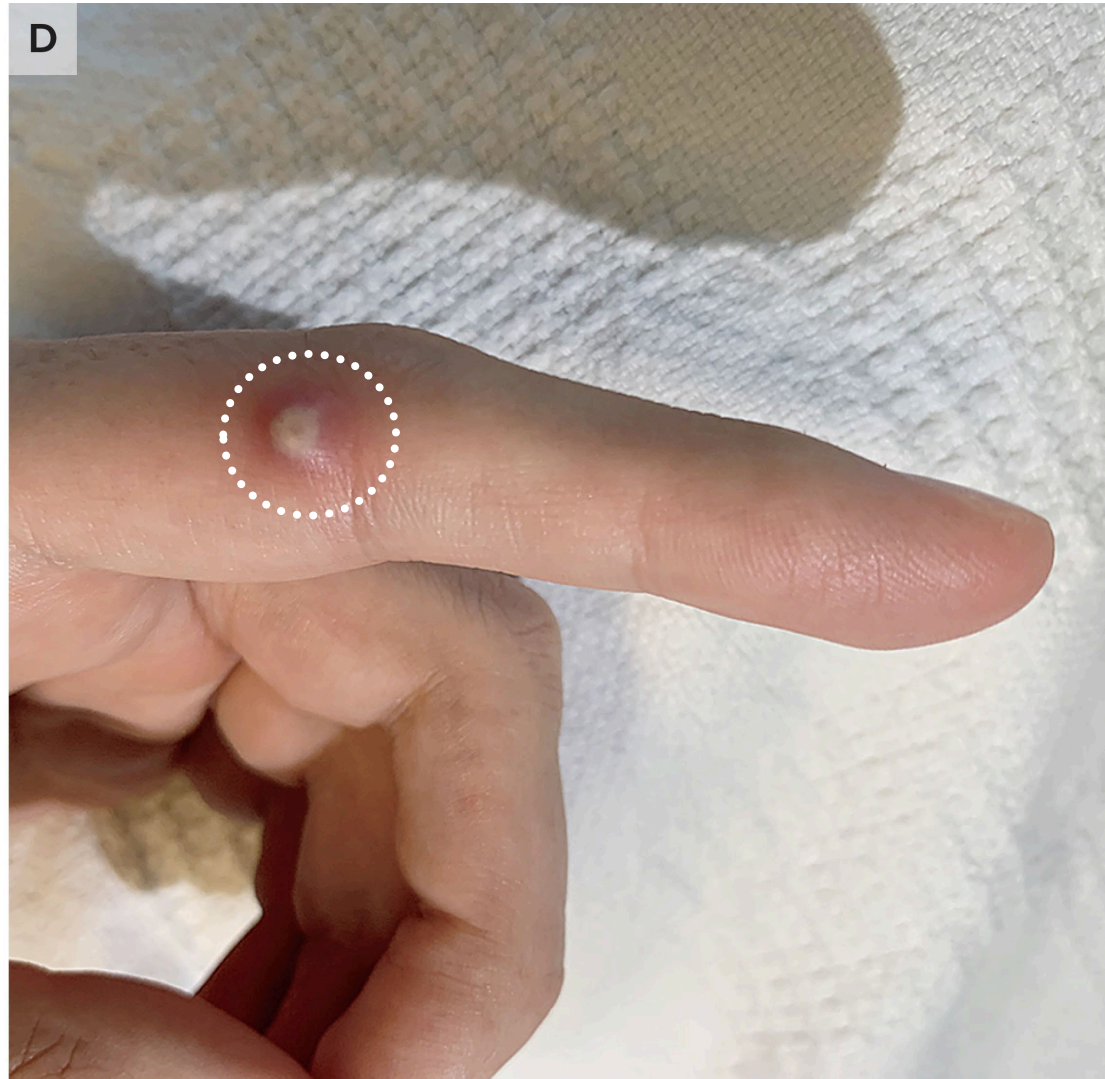
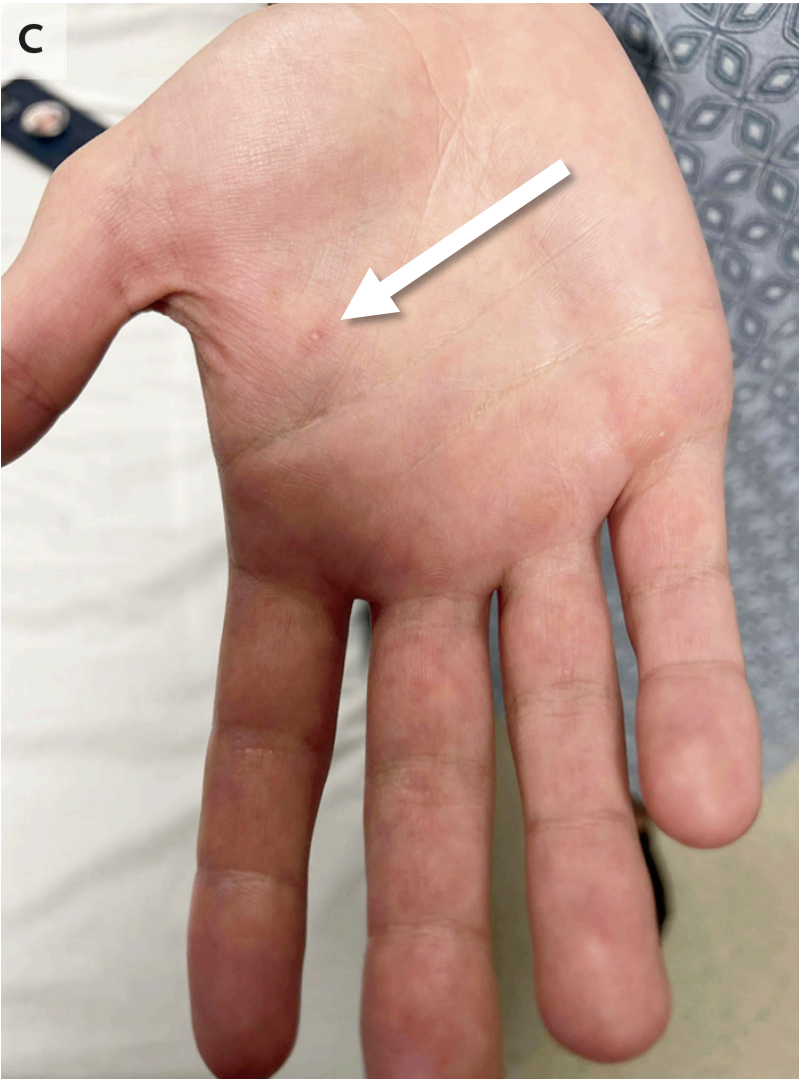


~18 mm
(lesions shown to scale)

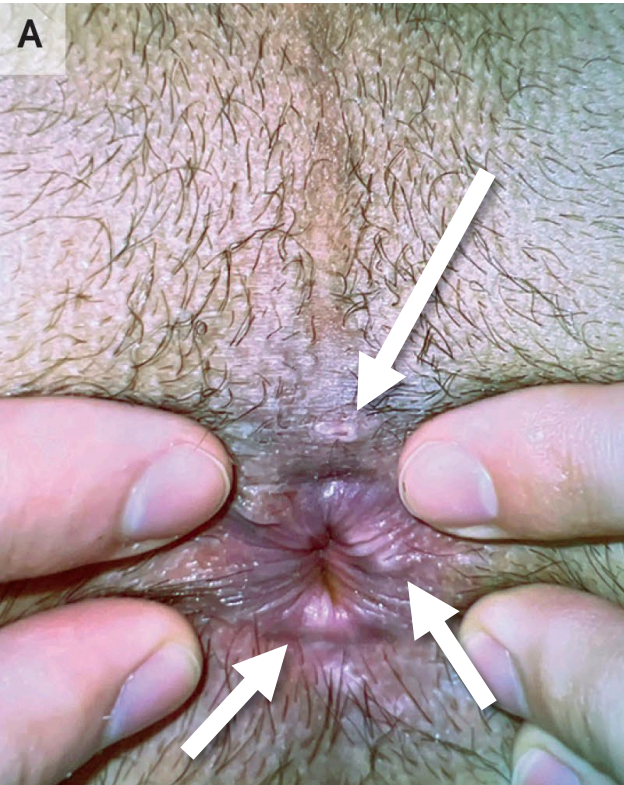
31yo on PrEP with recent travel to Canada



31yo on PrEP with recent travel to Canada



31yo on PrEP with recent travel to Canada



ventral penis



dorsal penis



macular (flat) rash
right inguinal area
(with lymphadenopathy)



clustered, umbilicated
pustules on penis
(uncircumcised)



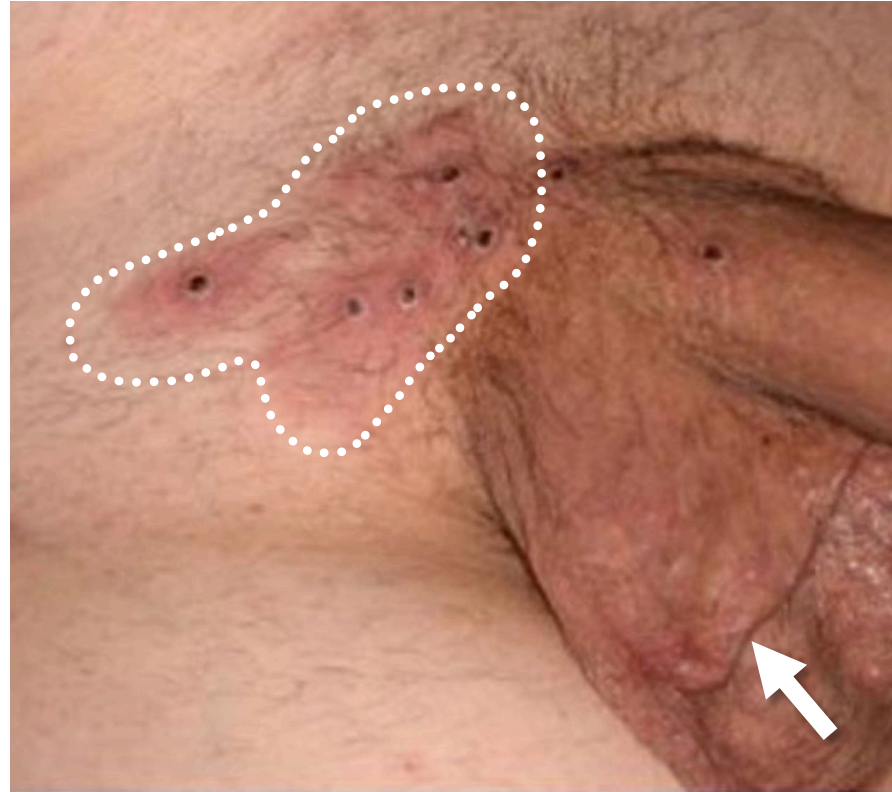
multiple lesions on chin
with exuberant crusting

multiple pustular lesions of medial
buttocks, some with coalescence





multiple facial lesions

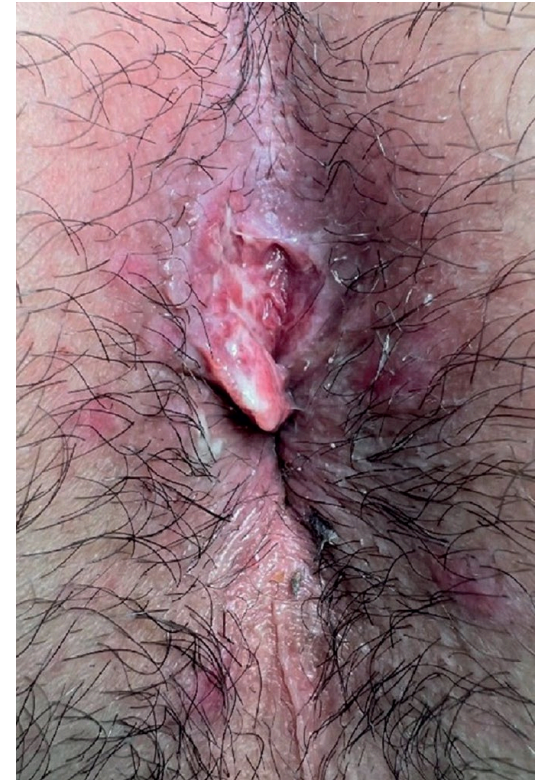


centrally scabbed pustules, each with significant surrounding edema and erythema
(pen line presumably indicates margin of spreading erythema)

Adjacent lesions may coalesce before ulcerating



multiple lesions on shaft
and coalescence in sulcus
(*papules on edge of corona are a benign finding*)

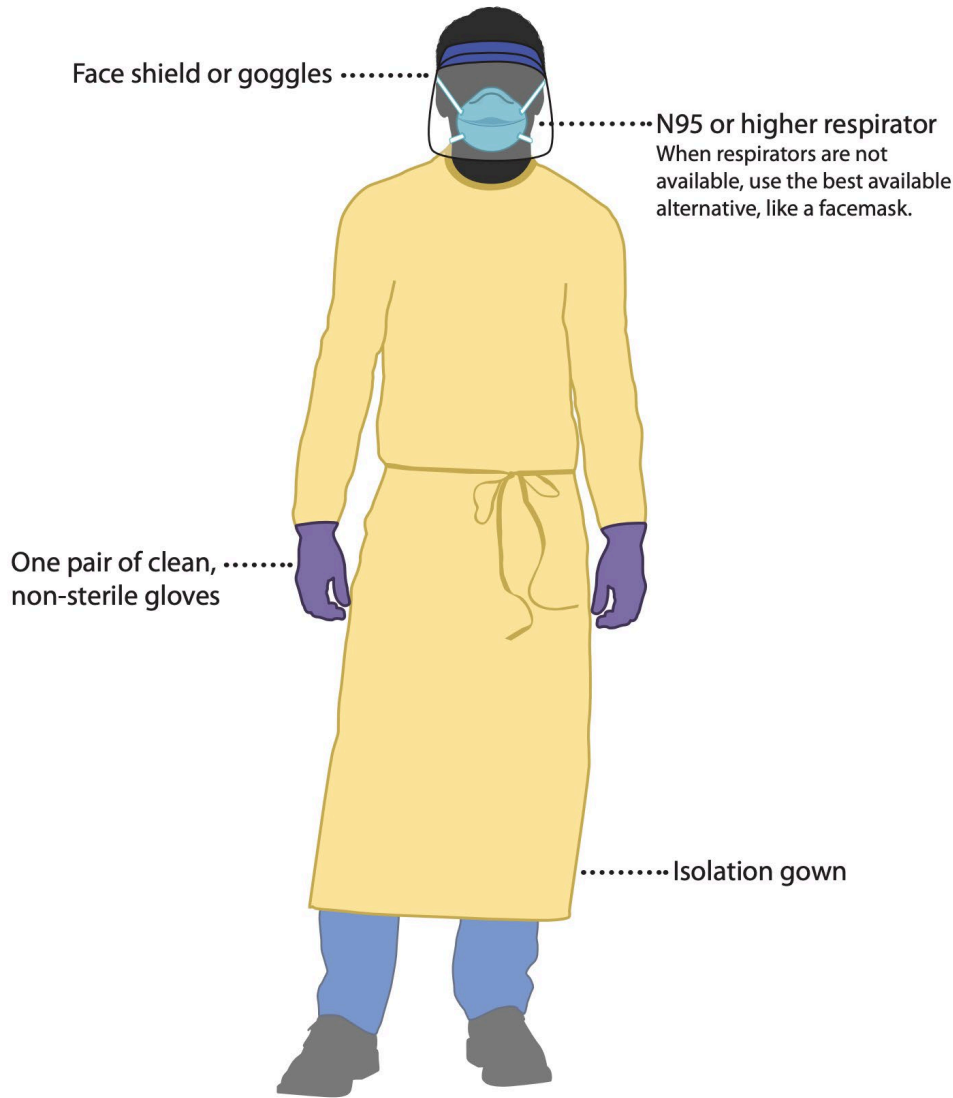


perianal lesions coalescent into an area of ulceration
(same patient, 10 days apart)

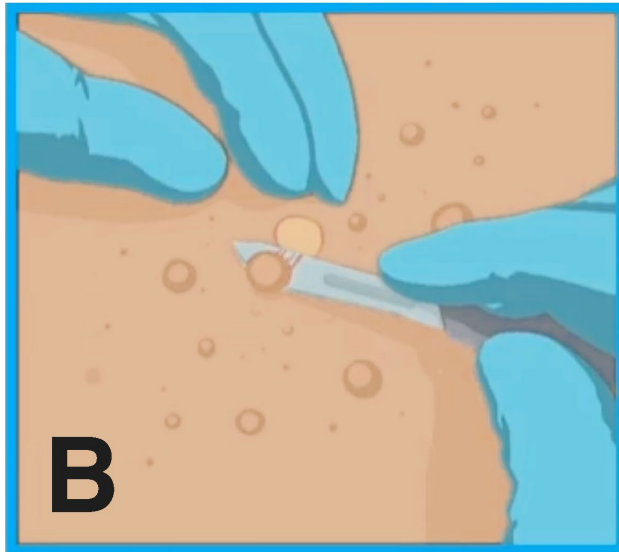
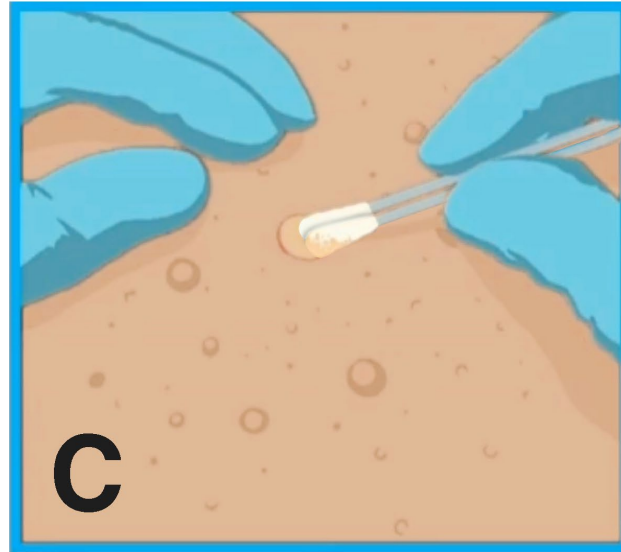
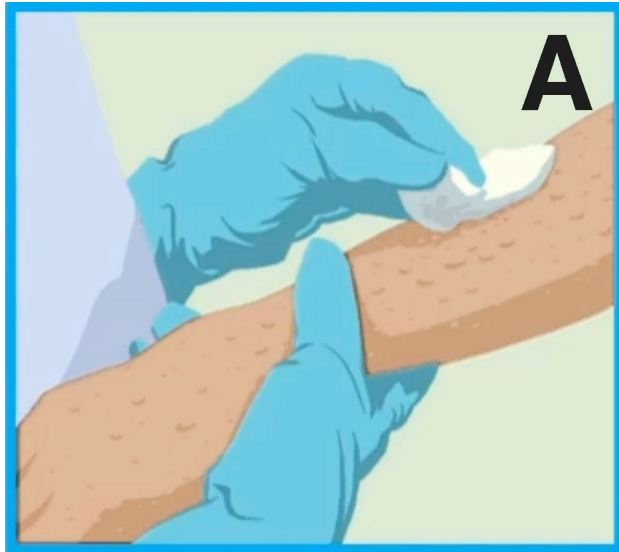
Maintaining a high index of suspicion is essential.

If you see something,
test something!

Collecting a specimen for monkeypox testing



Collecting a specimen for monkeypox testing



x2

For exposures: urgent immunization

- Given within 4d of exposure, may prevent onset
- Given within 4-14d of exposure, may mitigate severity of disease

For most patients: supportive care alone

- Aggressive / liberal pain management
- Isolation to avoid transmission (21 days)

For patients at risk of highly morbid or severe disease

- “Medical countermeasures” available with CDC consultation
 - **Tecovirimat** (TPOXX; oral or intravenous) → → →
 - **Vaccinia immune globulin** (VIGIV; intravenous)
 - **Brincidofovir** (TEMBEXA; tablets or oral suspension)
 - **Cidofovir** (VISTIDE; intravenous)

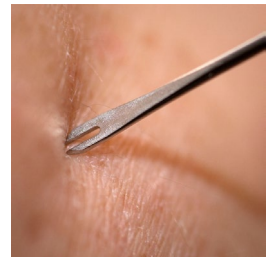


JYNNEOS (replication-deficient, live *Vaccinia virus*)

- Licensed in 2019 for persons with occupational risk of exposure
- Two-shot series administered subcutaneously, 28d apart
 - If at ongoing occupational risk, booster is needed every 2 years

ACAM2000 (replication-competent, live *Vaccinia virus*)

- Licensed 2007 for occupational exposures and military personnel
- Administered using “scarification” technique (bifurcated needle)
- Significant risk of serious adverse events
 - **Myopericarditis** (5.7 cases per 1000 vaccinees)
 - Progressive vaccinia disease
 - Eczema vaccinatum



JYNNEOS (replication-deficient, live *Vaccinia virus*)

- Studied among people with HIV (CD4 counts 200-750 cells/ μ L)
- No differences in safety profile among people with HIV
- Immunogenicity was comparable

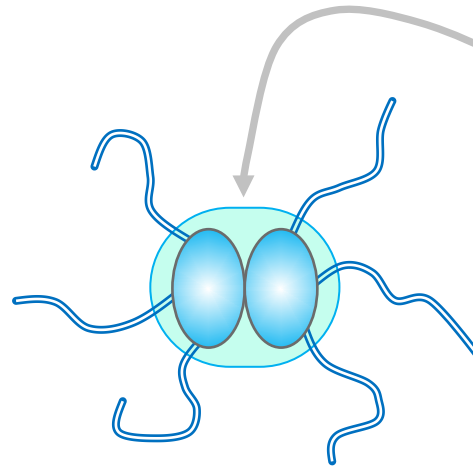
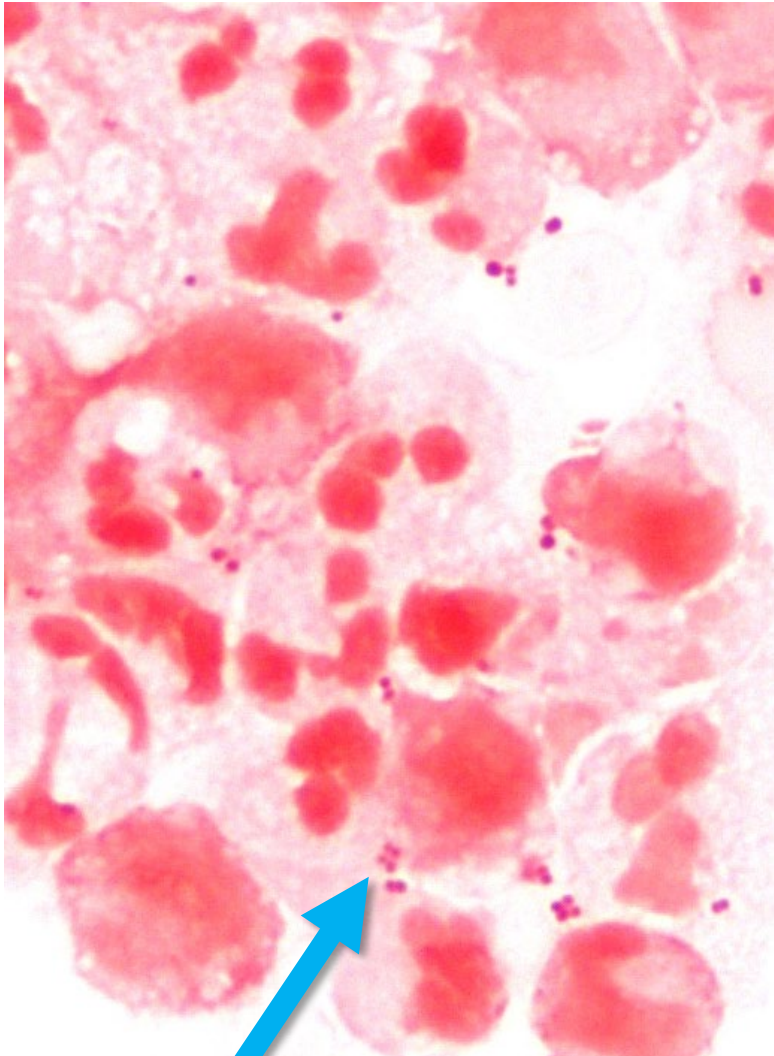
ACAM2000 (replication-competent, live *Vaccinia virus*)

- No studies among people with HIV
- PI: “Severe localized or systemic infection with vaccinia ... may occur in persons with weakened immune systems, including ... HIV/AIDS”
- 2015 CDC bioterrorism guidance: persons with CD4 counts <50 cells/ μ L are less likely to respond, more likely to have adverse effects
- Relative contraindication if CD4 50-199, for a ***smallpox*** outbreak

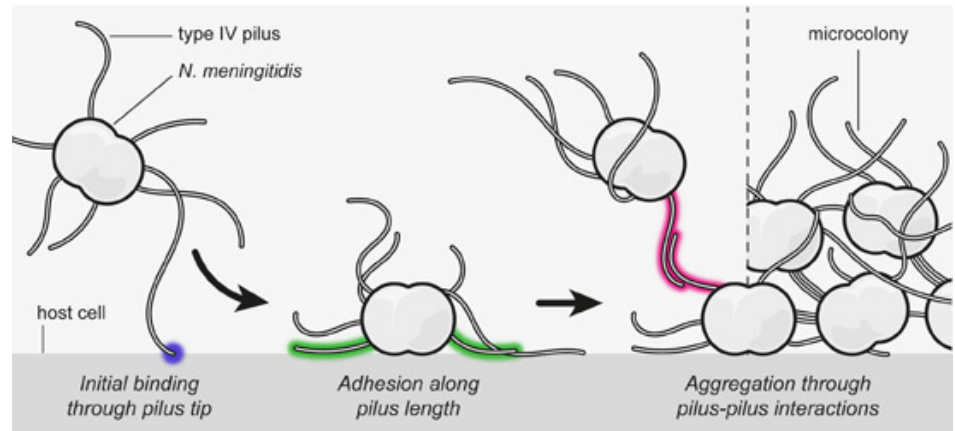


Meningococcus

Neisseria meningitidis (Nm) is a bacterium



- Serogrouping based on polysaccharide capsule composition
- A, B, C, W, X, and Y
- Serogroups B, C, and Y responsible for most cases in US (“MenB,” “MenC”)

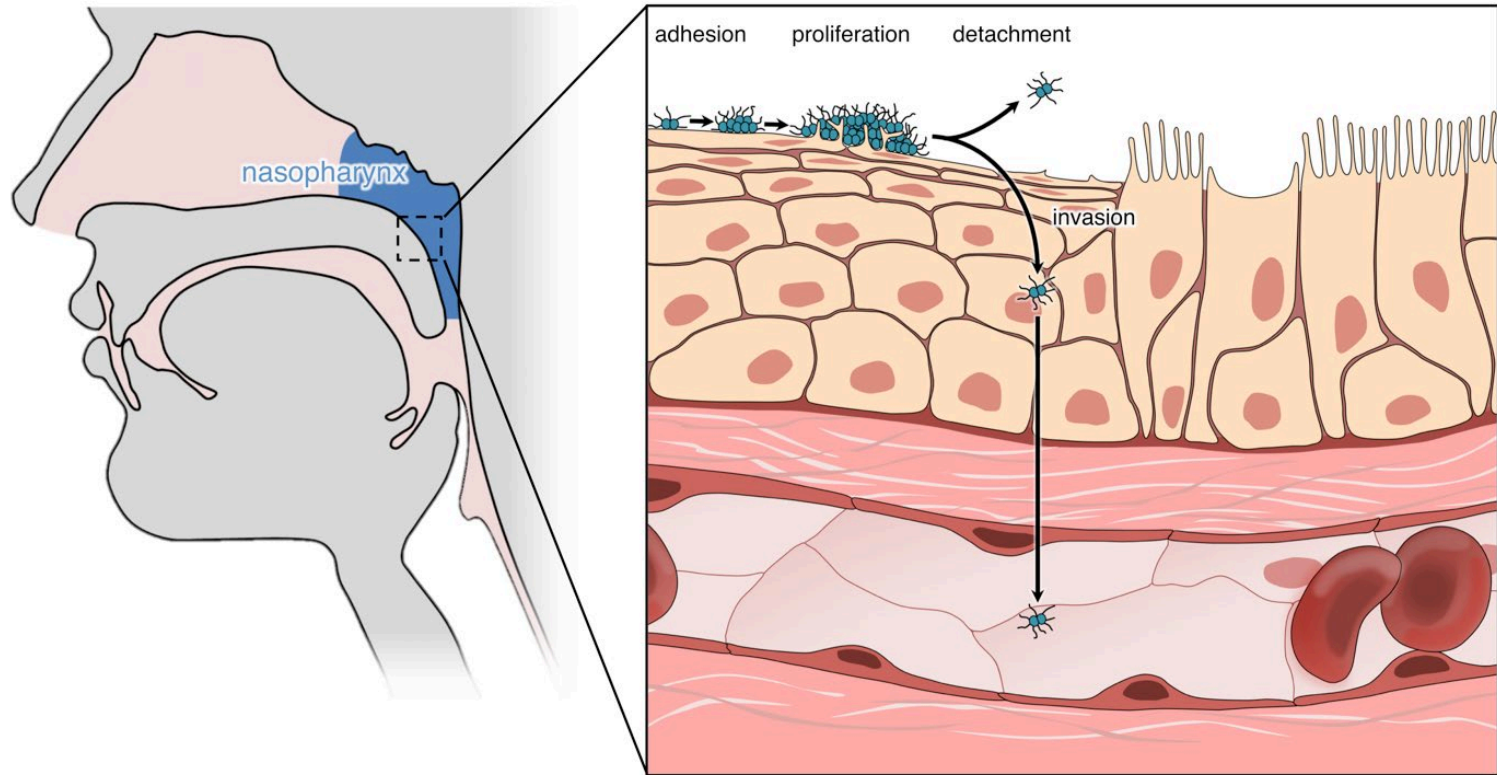


LEFT → https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neisseria_meningitidis#/media/File:Neisseria_meningitidis_CSF_Gram_1000.jpg

TOP → illustration by Christopher Hurt

BOTTOM → Kennouche P, et al. EMBO J. 2019 Nov 15;38(22):e102145. PMID: 31609039; PMCID: PMC6856618

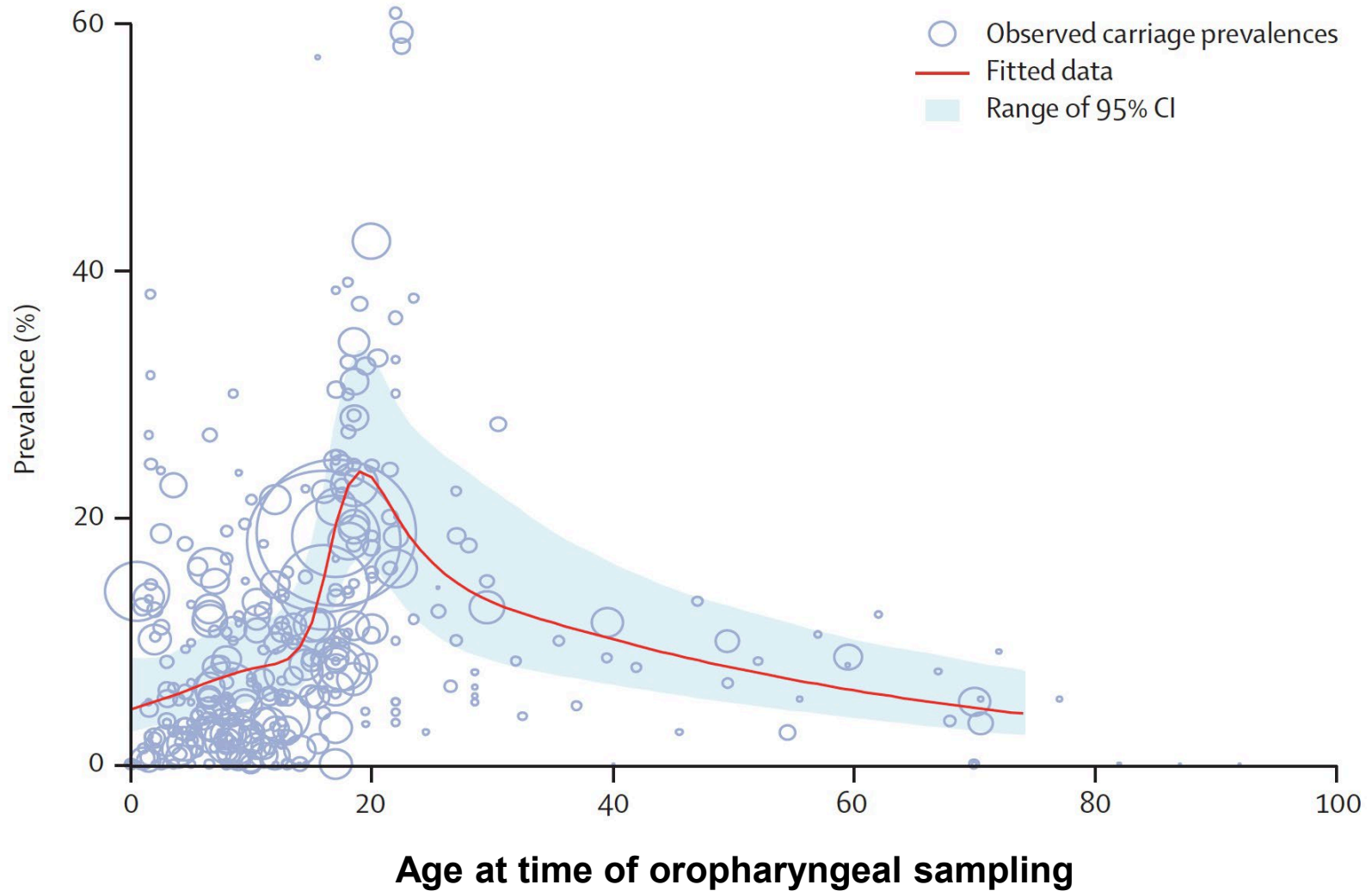
Transmission primarily via respiratory droplets



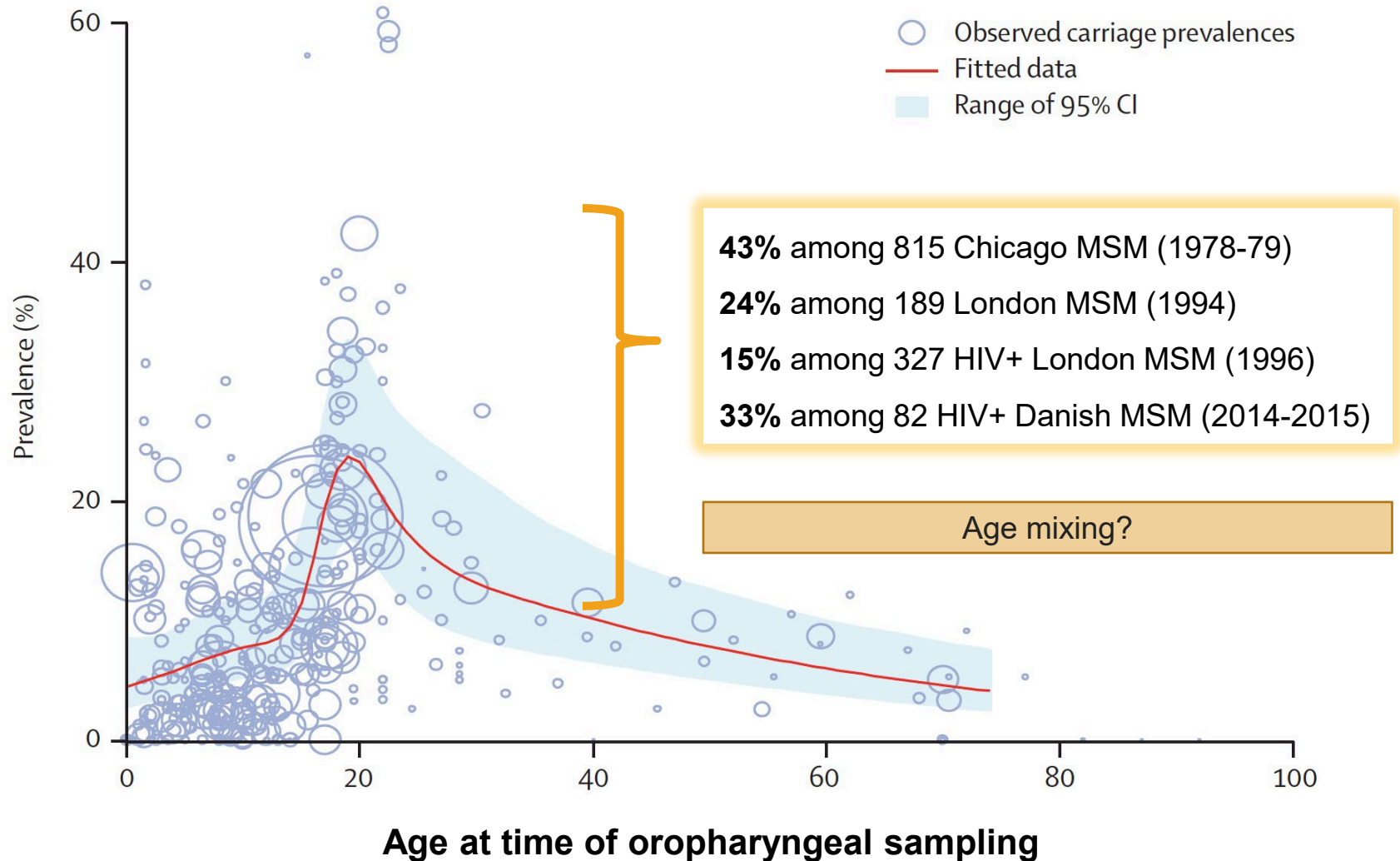
Three potential outcomes: transient attachment, carriage, and invasive meningococcal disease (IMD).

Carriage is an immunity-inducing event for the host.

General population carriage peaks by age 20

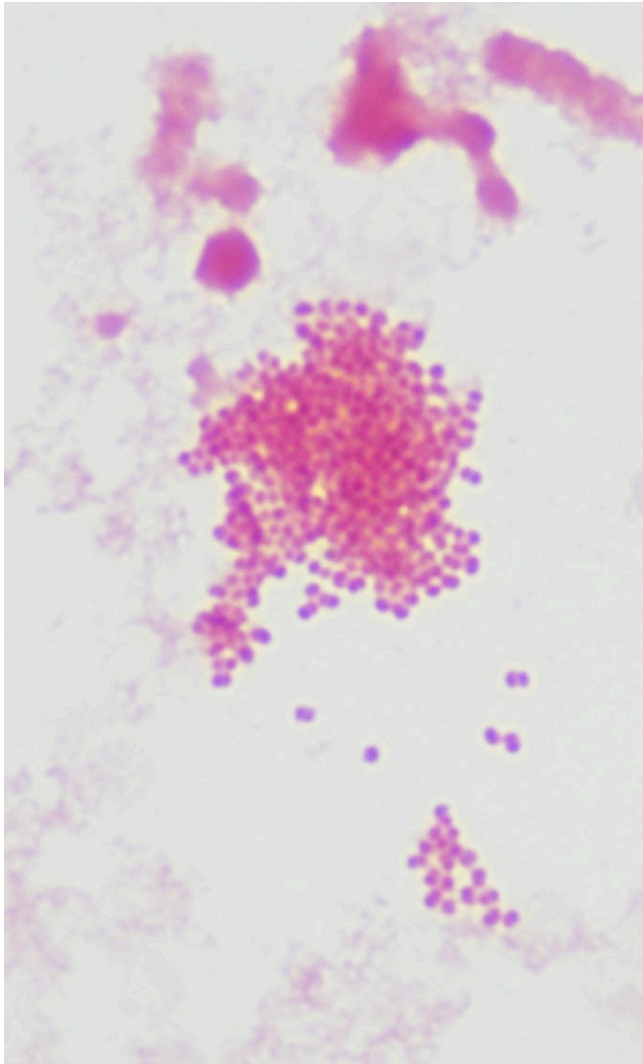


Carriage rates are higher among MSM at any age



Janda WM, et al. JAMA. 1980 Nov 7;244(18):2060-4. PMID: 6776296
Russell JM, et al. Int J STD AIDS. 1995 May-Jun;6(3):211-5. PMID: 7647127
Carlin EM, et al. Genitourin Med. 1997 Dec;73(6):477-80. PMID: 9582465; PMCID: PMC1195929
Tinggaard M, et al. Int J Infect Dis. 2021 Apr;105:337-344. PMID: 33610779
Christensen H, et al. Lancet Infect Dis. 2010 Dec;10(12):853-61. PMID: 21075057

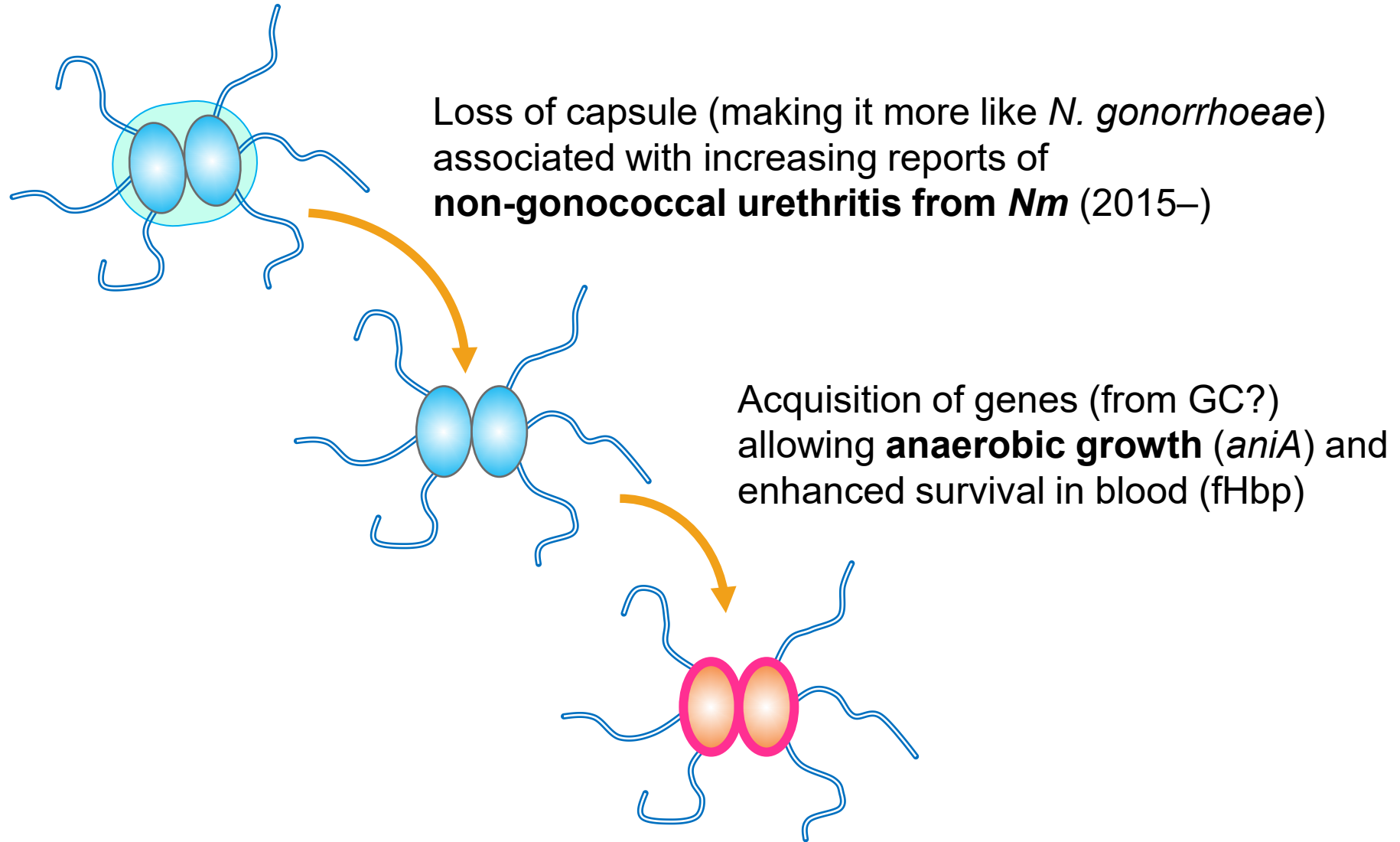
Invasive MenC emerged among MSM in 2001



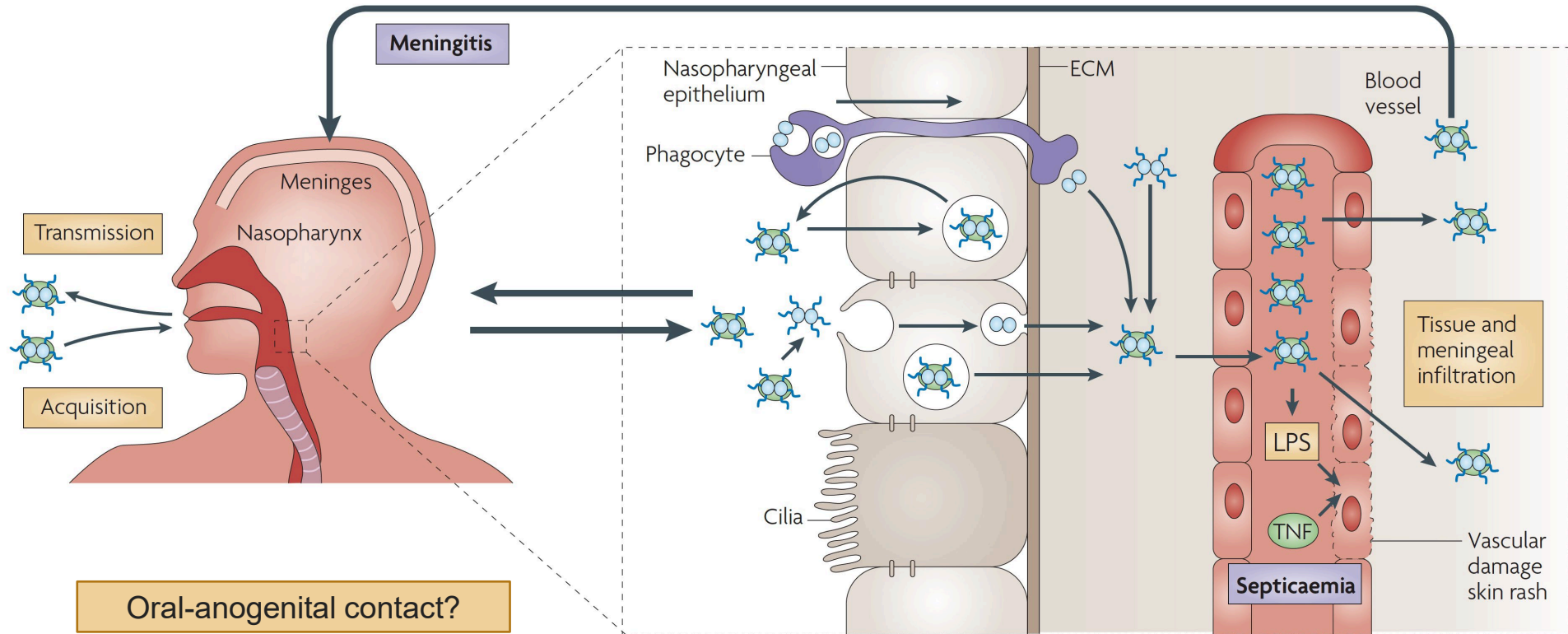
Location	Year	Cases	Fatality Rate
Toronto	2001	6	33%
Chicago	2003	6	50%
NYC	2010-13	22	32%
Berlin	2012-13	5	40%
Paris	2013	36	17%
LA	2012-14	13	38%
Chicago	2015-16	9	11%
Tuscany	2015-16	62	21%
California	2016	25	8%
Melbourne	2017	8	?
Florida	2022	24 ^{48?}	25%

Majority of cases are associated with hypervirulent lineage (11.2) of sequence type / clonal complex 11

Nm clonal complex 11 is an emerging STI



MenC cc11 is well-equipped to cause IMD among MSM

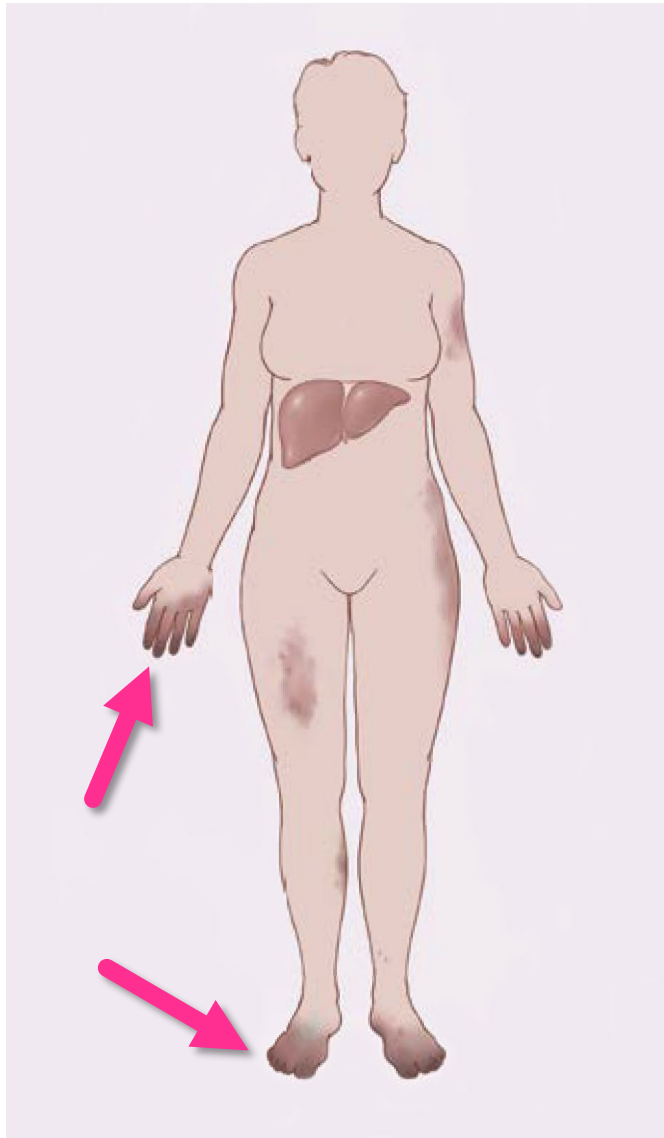


Carriage with cc11 is infrequent → transient attachment or invasion

Dramatic, rapid progression from usual state of health to severe headache to hospitalization (hours)

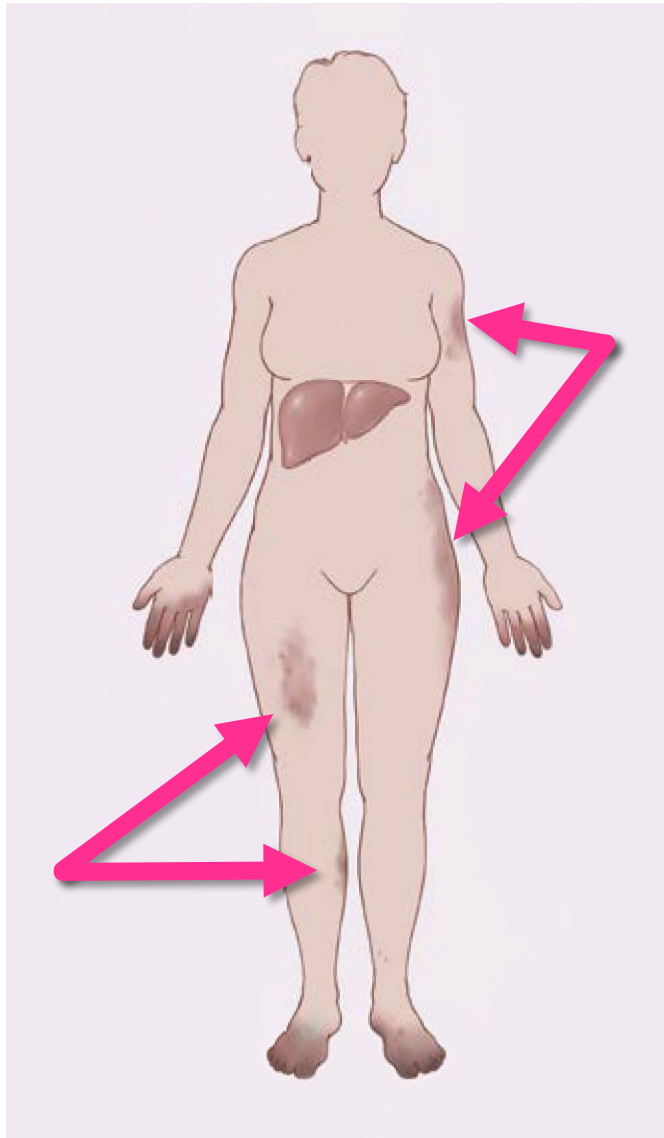
- Silent incubation for up to 10 days (during which they are contagious)
- Truly sudden onset of fever, nausea/vomiting, headache, muscle pain
- Neck stiffness (meningismus) and impaired consciousness follow
- Sepsis physiology sets in, with **hypotension** and **hemorrhages**
- Immunosuppression (acquired or congenital) is greatest risk for IMD

Blood vessels clot off in the extremities



LEFT → Warkentin TE. N Engl J Med. 2015 Aug 13;373(7):642-55. PMID: 26267624
RIGHT → Bendapudi PK, et al. N Engl J Med. 2021 Mar 11;384(10):953-963. PMID: 33704941

Other areas are affected in purpura fulminans



Progression of purpura fulminans



Time of admission



Six hours later



48 hours after admission

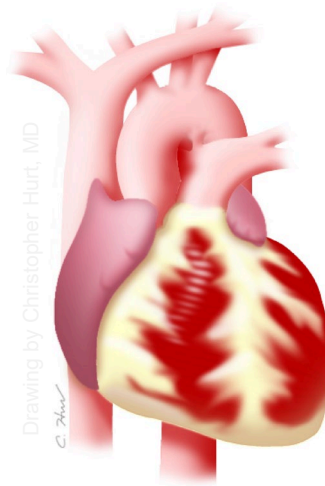


Hospital day 9

Clotting is happening *inside* the body, as well



https://www.clipartkey.com/mpngs/m/23-235524_brain-png-transparent-images-3d-brain-png.png



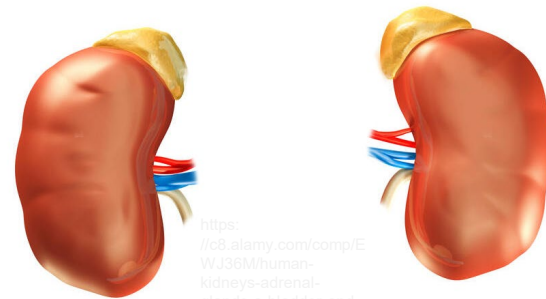
Drawing by Christopher Hurt, MD



https://img.freepik.com/free-vector/human-lungs-anatomy-structure-realistic-3d-vector-illustration-isolated-white-background-front-view-detail-right-left-lung-with-trachea-healthy-lung-respiration-system-organ_545793-813.jpg



<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/health-information/over-the-counter-drugs>

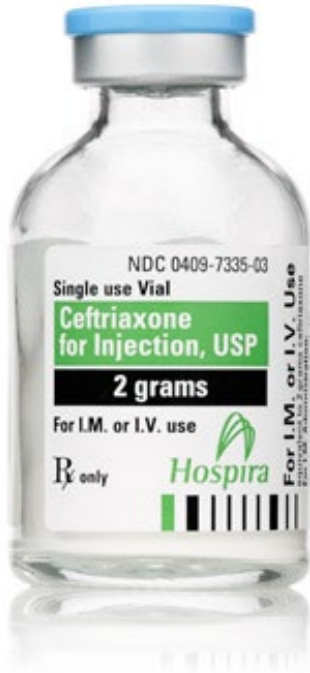


<https://c8.alamy.com/comp/EWJ36M/human-kidneys-adrenal-glands-a-bladder-and-arteries-medical-3d-illustration-EWJ36M.jpg>

Maintaining a high index
of suspicion is critical
for a patient's survival.

Meningococcus requires *droplet* precautions





IV every 12 hours



Average mortality from invasive meningococcal disease is 10-15%.

Among survivors of IMD, 20% have lost hearing and/or ≥ 1 limb.

Table 2 Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule by Medical Condition or Other Indication, United States, 2022

Vaccine	Pregnancy	Immuno-compromised (excluding HIV infection)	HIV infection CD4 percentage and count		Asplenia, complement deficiencies	End-stage renal disease, or on hemodialysis	Heart or lung disease; alcoholism ¹	Chronic liver disease	Diabetes	Health care personnel ²	Men who have sex with men
			<15% or <200 mm ³	≥15% and ≥200 mm ³							
MenACWY		1 or 2 doses depending on indication, see notes for booster recommendations									
MenB	Precaution	2 or 3 doses depending on vaccine and indication, see notes for booster recommendations									

Recommended vaccination for adults who meet age requirement, lack documentation of vaccination, or lack evidence of past infection

 Recommended vaccination for adults with an additional risk factor or another indication

 Recommended vaccination based on shared clinical decision-making

 Precaution—vaccination might be indicated if benefit of protection outweighs risk of adverse reaction

 Contraindicated or not recommended—vaccine should not be administered.

*Vaccinate after pregnancy.

 No recommendation/Not applicable

- Qualifying risk factors for MenACWY and/or MenB include:
 - **Persons at increased risk during an outbreak** (e.g., community settings, **MSM**)
 - Persons who travel to or live in countries where meningococcal disease is hyperendemic or epidemic
 - Anatomically or functionally without one’s spleen (e.g., advanced sickle cell disease)

ALL adults with HIV should be immunized against MenACWY (not just MSM!)

- The socio-sexual networks of MSM are uniquely conducive to rapid spread of pathogens.
- Maintaining a high index of suspicion for monkeypox can help mitigate its spread.
- Recognizing the early clinical signs of meningococcal disease can save a life!
- **Be a vaccine hero!**
Advocate for supply, facilitate access, and help educate your patients and loved ones about vaccination against monkeypox and meningococcal disease.



<https://www.handshake.com/products/thanks-science-vaccine-syringe-sticker-823904>

Questions?
Please email me!

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