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From: Emma Doran, MD, MPH, Medical Epidemiologist To: North Carolina Infectious Disease Clinicians

Subject: Mpox Vaccine Update

Date: July 23, 2024

The North Carolina Division of Public Health (DPH) is reminding clinicians that no cost JYNNEOS vaccine is still available, while supplies last. Clinicians should work to increase vaccination efforts with those populations at higher risk of mpox infection while free vaccine is still available. Vaccination with the 2-dose JYNNEOS vaccine series can protect against mpox infection and can reduce severity of illness if infection does occur.

Background

The <u>2022 global mpox outbreak</u> reached North Carolina in late May 2022. North Carolina has reported 784 cases since May of 2022 and 60 cases in the last six months. Mpox continues to be endemic in other parts of the world and we expect the U.S. to continue to have outbreaks.

Although it's important to note that mpox can affect anyone, cases have occurred predominantly among gay, bisexual, or other men who have sex with men (MSM). The main route of transmission in the current outbreak has been through sexual contact. Over half of North Carolina's overall mpox cases are among persons living with HIV. Additional demographic information on mpox cases and eligibility criteria for the JYNNEOS vaccine series in North Carolina can be found here.

JYNNEOS

JYNNEOS became available on the commercial market on April 1, 2024, at a cost between \$229.50 and \$270 per dose, but some supplies of free vaccine still remain in the state. Making a strong recommendation to encourage vaccination in populations at highest risk while supplies of free vaccine are available should be a high priority for providers.

- We anticipate that JYNNEOS vaccines will be available through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program for eligible 18-year-olds beginning in August.
- For assistance procuring non-commercial JYNNEOS vaccine, please complete the allocation request here.
- Providers can procure commercial vaccine by working with an authorized distributor to order JYNNEOS Vaccines <u>here.</u>
- If you plan to refer a patient to another provider for the JYNNEOS vaccine, consider making a warm hand off by contacting the provider or arranging an appointment.

Additional Information

NCDHHS Mpox Communications Toolkit
NCSH Mpox Vaccine: Promotion Materials Toolkit

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