Monkeys are a rare disease caused by the monkeypox virus.
Prior to 2022, MPV had been reported in people living in central and western Africa.

How it spreads
MPV can spread to anyone through:
- Direct contact with infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids from a person with MPV.
- Intimate physical contact, such as hugging, massage, kissing, cuddling, or sex.
- Prolonged face-to-face contact.
- Touching objects, fabrics (clothing, linen), and surfaces that have been used by someone with MPV.
- Contact with mucus or saliva.

Vaccination
In Wisconsin, JYNNEOS (one of the vaccines that prevents MPV) is available for certain populations. As vaccine eligibility evolves, please visit uhs.wisc.edu/medical/monkeypox for the latest.

Prevention
- Avoid skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like MPV.
- Avoid contact with objects and materials that a person with MPV has used.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially before eating or touching your face and after you use the bathroom.
- CDC recommends vaccination for people who have been exposed to MPV and people who are at high risk of being exposed to MPV.

Treatment
- Most people with MPV will recover on their own in two to four weeks.
- Antivirals, such as tecovirimat (TPOXX), may be recommended for people who are more likely to get severely ill, like patients with weakened immune systems.

More information: cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/