



**EACS**  
European  
AIDS  
Clinical  
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# 2<sup>nd</sup> Informal ECDC/EACS Webinar on the Monkeypox outbreak

31 May 2022

# Some questions identified in last week's webinar

- How do we engage our community to come forward for testing (and isolation) without stigmatization?
- How to we communicate that venue closure is counter-productive?
- What type of contact is associated with transmission?
- Do we need special measures for PLWH? (i.e. early treatment, prioritization for post-exposure vaccination?)
- How do we protect our frontline HCWs (i.e. what PPE)?
- Is there really 'sexual transmission'
  - i.e. seminal fluid/vaginal secretions once rash has resolved
- Is there asymptomatic transmission? Droplet transmission?
- Can we de-isolate vaccinated contacts?
- What advice can be given to recovered individuals around sexual and other contacts?

**Objective:** To share information between European stakeholders on the Monkeypox outbreak, with a focus on communication messages for men who have sex with men and to identify needs for Europe-wide guidance going forward.

**Participants:** Public health, clinicians, community organisations, social networking app owners, European agencies (WHO Regional Office for Europe, European Commission and European Medicines Agency)

# Agenda

- ECDC epidemiological update on Monkeypox (Joana Haussig, 5 min)
- Country update (20 minutes total)
  - Portugal (Margarida Tavares)
  - Spain (Julia Del Amo/Pepa Sierra)
  - United Kingdom (Mateo Prochazka, UKHSA/Sanjay Bhagani, EACS/Royal Free)
- Community engagement (10 min)
  - Grindr (Jack Harrison-Quintana/Steph Niaupari)
  - Hornet (Jawad Badran)
- WHO update on ongoing/planned MPX activities (Richard Pebody, 5-7 min)
- ECDC update on ongoing/planned MPX activities (Thomas Hofmann, 5 min)
- Discussion
  - Questions to speakers
  - Tour de table: What are the needs for further support?

# Monkeypox multi-country outbreak – Epidemiological update 31 May 2022

Joana Haussig, ECDC

Expert Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases

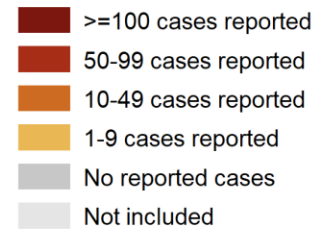
ECDC/EACS webinar on the monkeypox outbreak, 31 May 2022



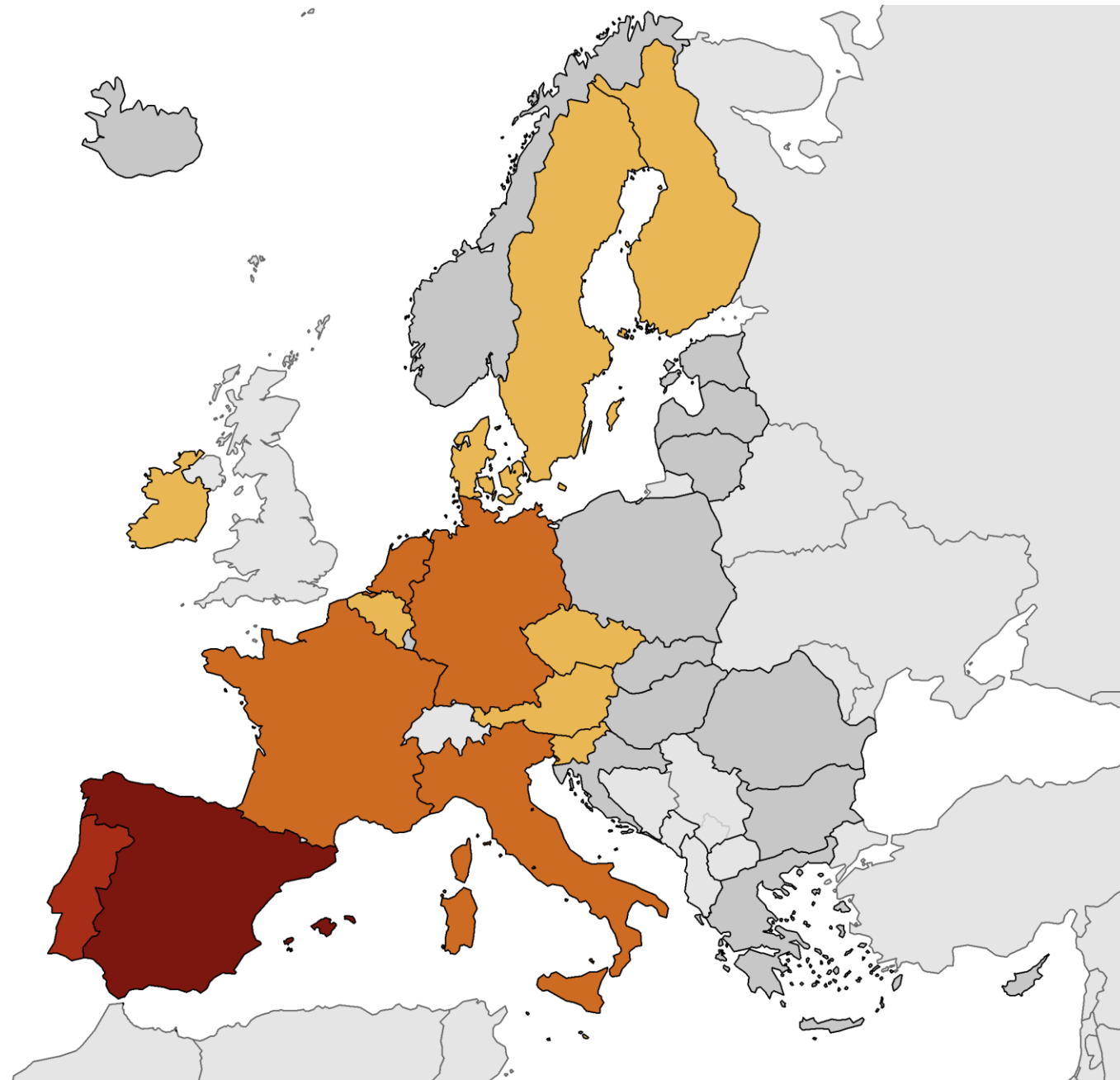
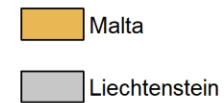
# Epidemiological update as of 31 May 2022

- In the EU/EEA 321 cases:  
Austria (1), Belgium (10), Czechia (5), Denmark (2), Finland (1), France (17), Germany (21), Ireland (2)\*, Italy (14), Malta (1), the Netherlands (26), Portugal (96), Slovenia (2), Spain (120)\* and Sweden (3).
- Outside of the EU/EEA 236 cases:  
Argentina (2), Australia (2), Canada (26), Israel (2), Mexico (1), Switzerland (4), Thailand (1)\*, the UAE (4), the UK (179)\* and the US (15).
- First time that chains of transmission are reported in Europe **without known epidemiological links to West or Central Africa**.
- The majority of cases are in young men, self-identifying as MSM.
- Most cases presented with lesions on genitalia or peri-genital area, indicating that transmission likely occurs during close physical contact during sexual activities.
- **No deaths** have been reported.

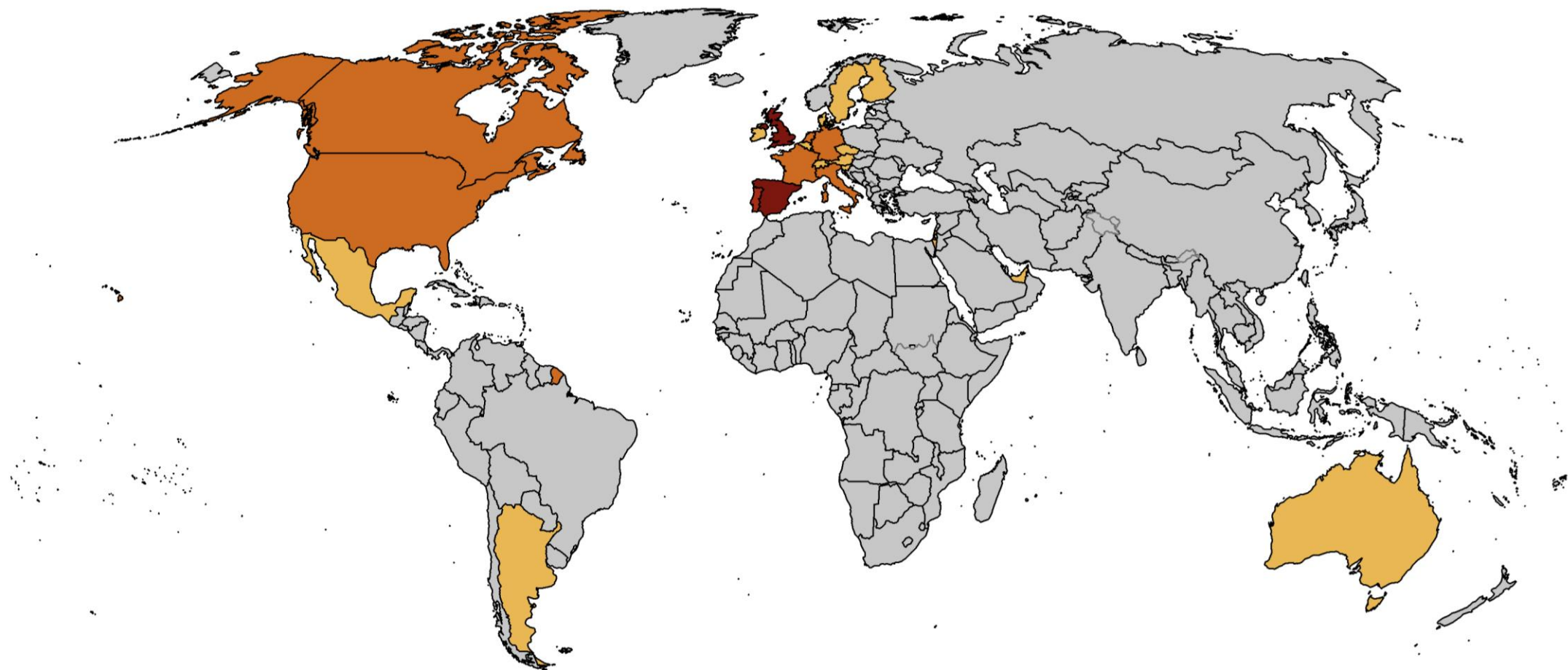
### Geographical distribution of confirmed monkeypox cases in the EU/EEA, as of 31 May 2022



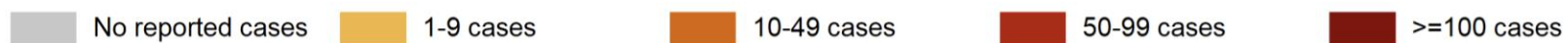
Countries not visible in the main map extent



Source: GISAID EpiCoV™ and ECDC TESSy data. Administration boundaries: © Eurographics  
The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union. ECDC. Map produced on 31 May 2022



**Geographical distribution of confirmed monkeypox cases worldwide, as of 31 May 2022**



Source: GISAID EpiCoV™ and ECDC TESSy data. Administration boundaries: © Eurographics

The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union. ECDC. Map produced on 31 May 2022



# Case-based reporting of monkeypox

- Currently **EpiPulse line lists** used to report case-based MPX data (implemented Fri 20 May)
- Merged the existing EpiPulse items related to MPX into **one single item:** **2022-STI-00005 Monkeypox - Multi-country – 2022**
- Tentative launch of **MPX TESSy reporting Thu 2 June**
- Metadata set similar to what is currently used in EpiPulse
- Data to be reported twice weekly by **Tuesdays 10:00AM and Fridays 10:00AM.**

# Thank you!



## ***Monkeypox in Portugal***

**Margarida Tavares, MD, MPH**

**Department of Infectious Diseases, Emerging Infectious Diseases Unit, CHUSão João  
EPI Unit – Institut of Public Health of the University of Porto  
Direção-Geral da Saúde – Ministry of Health**

National STI and HIV Programme  
Rapid Response Team on human Monkeypox virus infection



## Monkeypox in Portugal

**As of 30 May: 100 confirmed MPX cases**

Date of results	Suspected cases / at least one sample	Positive cases / Positivity (%)
18 May (from 5 to 18 May)	14	5*+ 9 (100%)
19 May	10	9 (90%)
20 May	26	14 (54%)
23 May	5	3 (60%)
24 May	21	9 (43%)
25 May	18	9 (50%)
26 May	21	15 (71%)
27 May	35	24 (68%)
30 May	6	3 (50%)

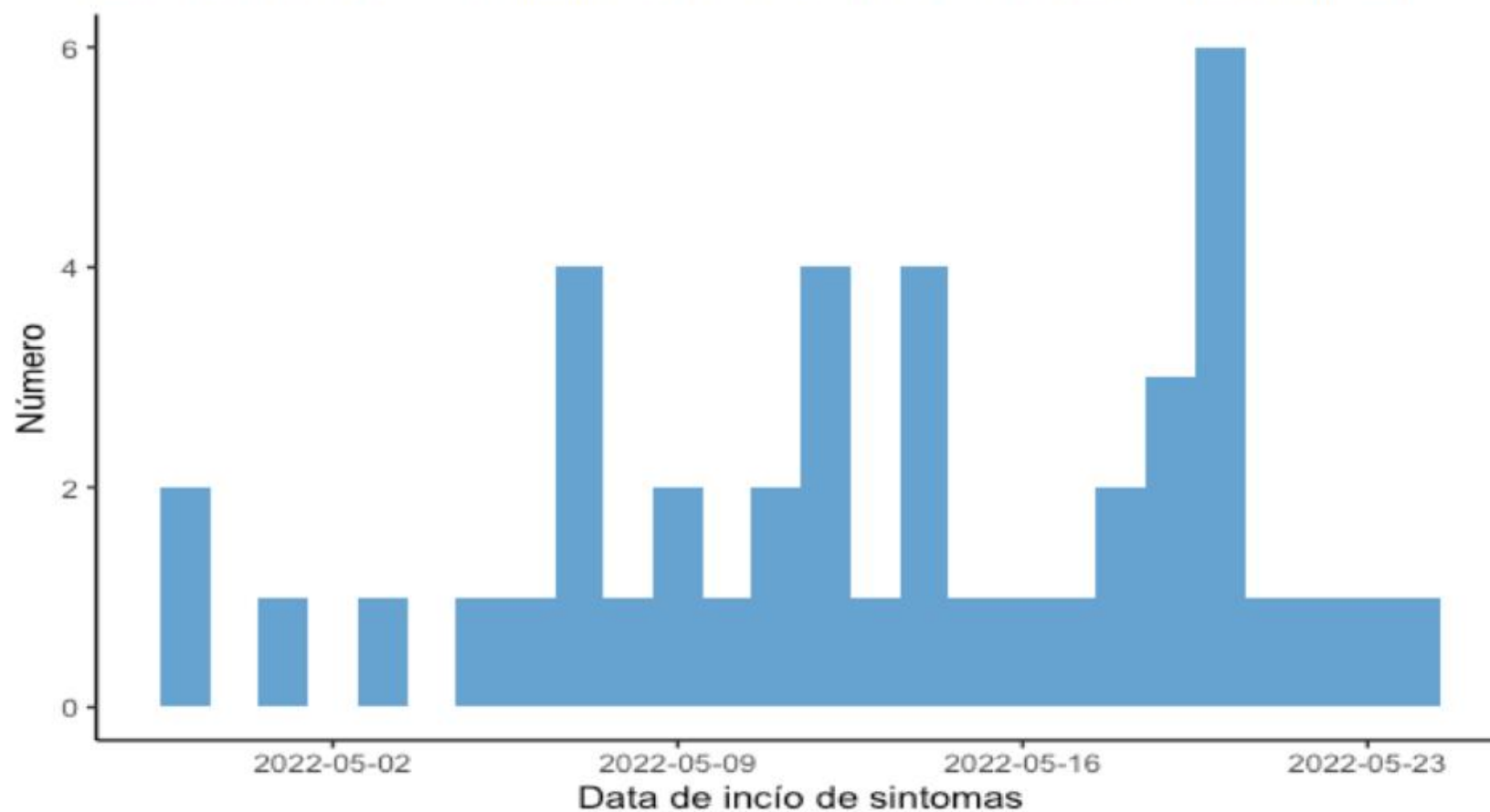
\* West African clade, and is closely related to viruses isolated from cases imported from Nigeria to the United Kingdom, Israel, and Singapore in 2018 and 2019.

100% male sex; mean age of 34 (20 - 61) years old



## Monkeypox in Portugal

Confirmed cases by date of symptoms onset, Portugal, 29 April – 30 May 2022 (n=49)

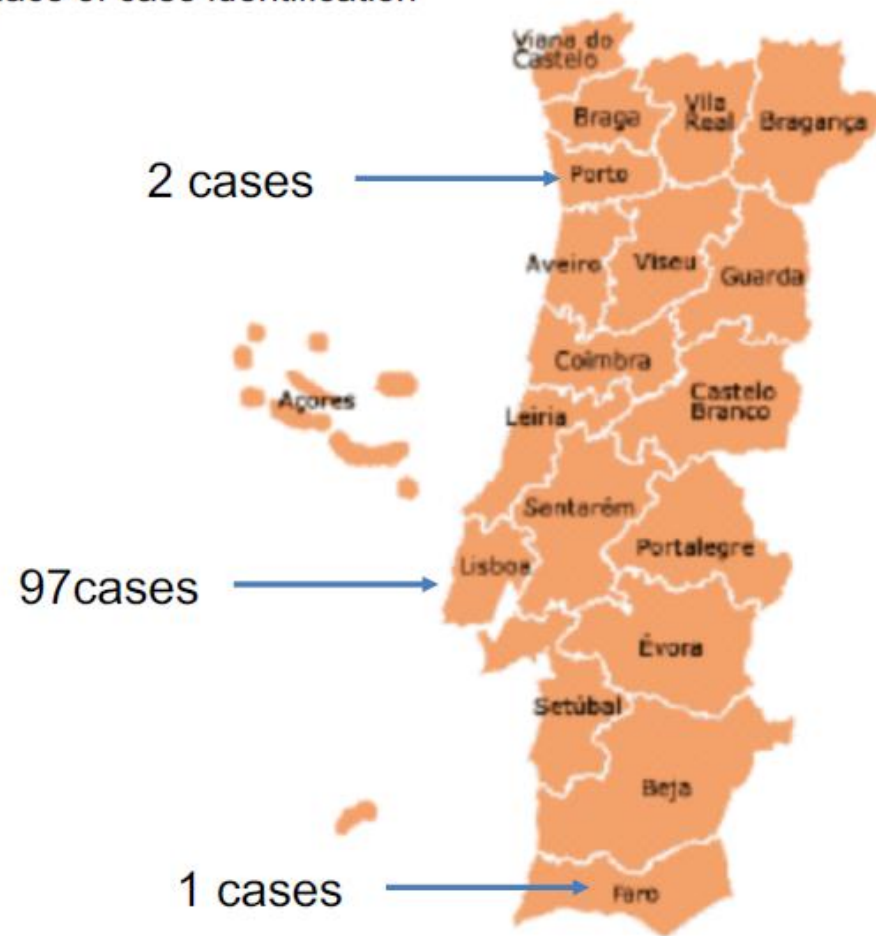






# Monkeypox in Portugal

Confirmed cases by place of case identification





## *Case definition*

### **Suspected case**

A person of any age with :

1. A rash (macular, papular, vesicular or pustular ; generalised or localised) AND/OR anogenital complaints (including ulcers), with sudden symptom onset since 15th March 2022, unexplained by other differential diagnoses.

### **AND**

2. One or more of the following signs/symptoms : fever of sudden onset  $\geq 38.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), asthenia, myalgia, backache, headache, lymphadenopathy.

### **Probable case**

A person of any age who meets the suspected case criteria AND one or more of the following conditions :

- contact with a suspected, probable or confirmed case of MPXV infection within 21 days prior to onset of symptoms;
- a person who had multiple or anonymous sexual partners in the 21 days before symptom onset ;
- hospital admission due to a clinical condition consistent with a suspected case;
- travel history to MPX endemic countries in the 21 days before symptom onset.

### **Confirmed case**

A person with a laboratory-confirmed MPX infection (RT-PCR positive result and/or nucleotide sequencing) in a clinical sample.

## Publication of a National Guidance



### ORIENTAÇÃO

NÚMERO: 000/2022

DATA: 00/05/2022

ASSUNTO:	Abordagem de casos de infeção humana por vírus <u>Monkeypox</u> (VMPX)
PALAVRAS-CHAVE:	Infeção humana por vírus <u>Monkeypox</u> (VMPX), Infeciologia, Vigilância, Diagnóstico laboratorial
PARA:	Sistema de saúde
CONTACTOS:	Centro de Emergências em Saúde Pública – <a href="mailto:cesp@dgs.min-saude.pt">cesp@dgs.min-saude.pt</a>

### ENQUADRAMENTO

Em Portugal, a 3 de maio de 2022, foram identificados 5 casos atípicos de úlceras genitais em homens em consultas de infeções sexualmente transmissíveis (IST) no Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Lisboa



## PLHIV and MPX infection



Clinical presentation	PLHIV MPX cases N=20	Other MPX cases N=14	p
Fever	11	8	0.83
Axillary lymphadenopathy	0	1	0.21
Cervical lymphadenopathy	4	2	0.76
Headache	5	5	0.47
Asthenia	3	4	0.51
Odynophagia	7	3	0.41
Generalised exanthema	3	4	0.33
Face exanthema	7	7	0.38
Anogenital lesion	16	13	0.41
Hospital admission	1	3	0.14





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## Infeção humana por vírus Monkeypox

### Perguntas Frequentes

#### O que é a infeção por vírus *monkeypox*?

A infeção por vírus *monkeypox* é uma doença zoonótica, o que significa que se pode transmitir de animais para humanos. Também se pode transmitir entre pessoas.

O termo "variola dos macacos" não se refere à infeção humana pelo que não se trata da variola, doença que foi erradicada em 1980.

#### Quais são os sintomas da infeção humana por vírus *monkeypox*?

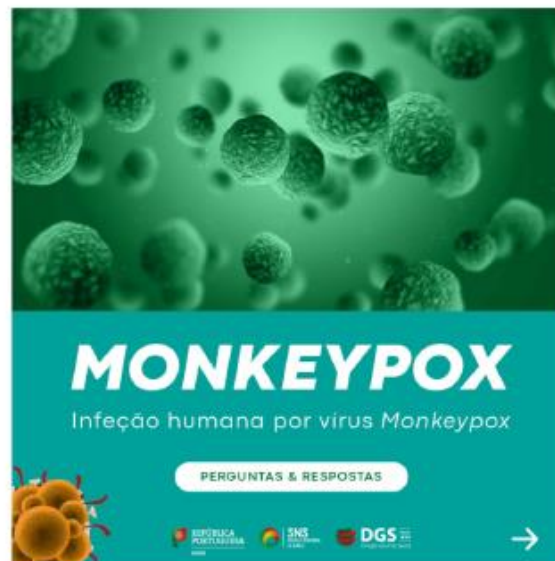
Os sintomas mais comuns são febre, dor de cabeça intensa, dores musculares, dor nos gânglios linfáticos com o aparecimento progressivo de erupções que

As lesões cutâneas geralmente começam entre um a três dias após o início e são ligeiramente elevadas, com líquido claro ou amarelado, e acabam por se secar e cair. O número de lesões numa pessoa pode variar, tendendo a ser mais numerosas no rosto e a espalhar-se para o resto do corpo e mesmo atingir as palmas das mãos e plantas dos pés, na boca, órgãos genitais e olhos.

Estes sinais e sintomas geralmente duram entre duas a quatro semanas sem tratamento.

Se tem sintomas que possam ser causados por vírus *monkeypox*, procure ter tido contacto próximo com alguém com a infeção ou suspeita de

**Como é que o vírus *monkeypox* se transmite de pessoa para pessoa?**





# Muito Obrigada!

[margaridatavares@dgs.min-saude.pt](mailto:margaridatavares@dgs.min-saude.pt)



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Programa Nacional para as  
Infeções Sexualmente Transmissíveis  
e Infecção pelo VIH

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# UKHSA guidance on Monkeypox



## **Principles for monkeypox control:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/principles-for-monkeypox-control-in-the-uk-4-nations-consensus-statement>

## **Interim guidance to support NHS Trusts in managing the de-isolation and discharge of monkeypox-infected patients:**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/de-isolation-and-discharge-of-monkeypox-infected-patients-interim-guidance>

## **Guidance on Monkeypox vaccination:**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1079498/Recommendations-for-pre-and-post-exposure-vaccination-during-a-monkeypox-incident-27-may-2022.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1079498/Recommendations-for-pre-and-post-exposure-vaccination-during-a-monkeypox-incident-27-may-2022.pdf)

## **Contact tracing guidance:**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/monkeypox-contact-tracing>

# Community engagement

# Community engagement



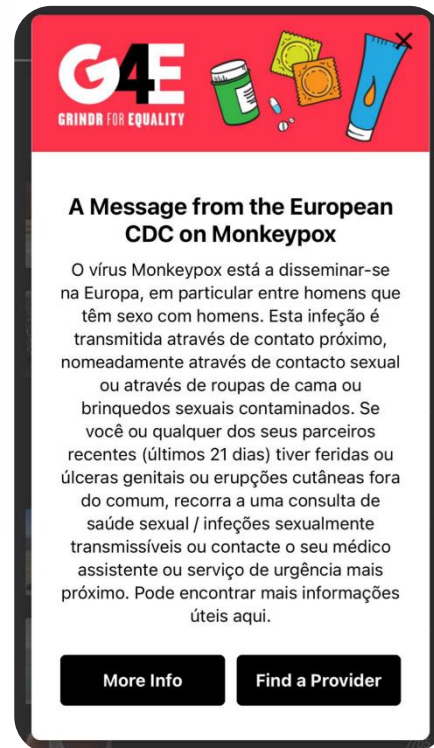
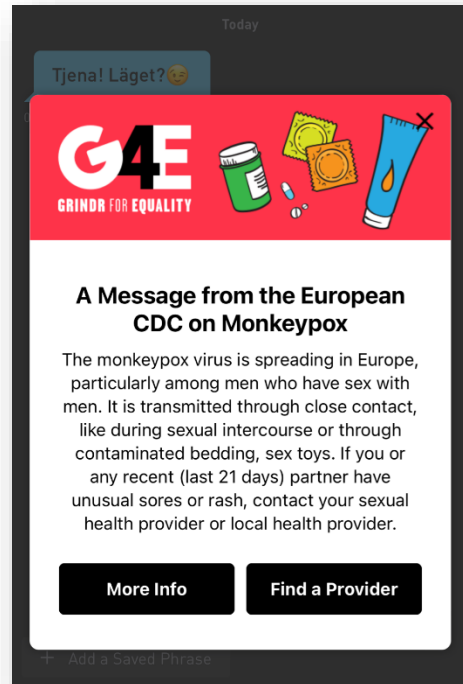
## ECDC, 'the love tank' and MPACT to work on some key messages

- The community
  - ✓ on the importance of 'self care' and harm reduction
- For public health
  - ✓ on the importance of not closing down festivals and Pride events, and use these as events to get across public health messages



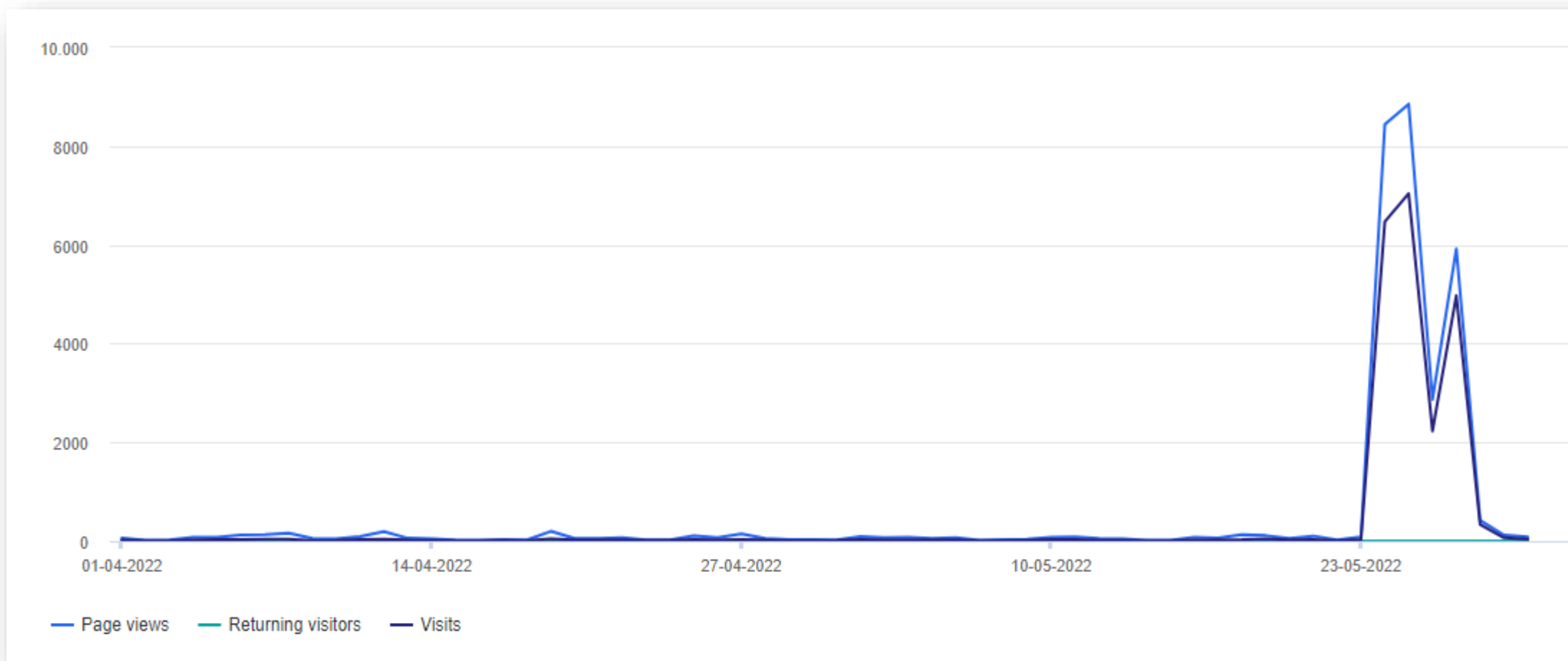


# Push messages via Grindr and Hornet





# Visits to the European Test Finder





**GRINDR FOR EQUALITY**

# What is Grindr for Equality

- I. Educate Grindr Users
- II. Activate Grindr Users
- III. Fund the LGBTQ Movement
- IV. Bring social justice into the app itself

# Monkeypox

## Messaging




**A Message from the European CDC on Monkeypox**

Le virus de la variole du singe (monkeypox) se propage en Europe, en particulier parmi les hommes ayant des rapports sexuels avec les hommes. Il se transmet par contact étroit, tel que lors d'un rapport sexuel ou par les draps ou les sex toys. Si vous ou un.e partenaire (des 21 derniers jours) développez des lésions inhabituelles ou une éruption cutanée, contactez votre prestataire de santé sexuelle, votre médecin traitant ou un centre de santé proche de vous.

Pour plus d'informations (en anglais).

[More Info](#) [Find a Provider](#)



**A Message from the European CDC on Monkeypox**

The monkeypox virus is spreading in Europe, particularly among men who have sex with men. It is transmitted through close contact, like during sexual intercourse or through contaminated bedding, sex toys. If you or any recent (last 21 days) partner have unusual sores or rash, contact your sexual health provider or local health provider.

[More Info](#) [Find a Provider](#)



**A Message from the European CDC on Monkeypox**

Αυτές τις ημέρες διαγνώστηκαν κρούσματα ευλογιάς των πιθήκων στην Ευρώπη, σε άνδρες που έχουν σεξουαλικές επαφές με άνδρες. Το νόσημα αυτό μεταδίδεται με τη στενή επαφή, όπως κατά τη διάρκεια της σεξουαλικής πράξης ή μέσω μολυσμένων ρούχων, σεντονιών ή παιχνιδιών του σεξ (sex toys). Αν εσύ ή κάποιος σύντροφος (τις τελευταίες 21 ημέρες) είχε ασυνήθιστο εξάνθημα ή κάποιες δερματικές βλάβες, καλό είναι να εξεταστείτε ή να αναζητήσετε ιατρική συμβουλή. Περισσότερες πληροφορίες μπορείτε να βρείτε εδώ.

[More Info](#) [Find a Provider](#)

# From Pop-ups to Inbox Messages



## GET THE FACTS: MONKEYPOX

There is a small but ongoing outbreak of Monkeypox among gay & bi men. Our partners at Building Healthy Online Communities, which represents a number of public health organizations, suggest we share this message with you:

Don't Panic. As of now, there are very few cases of Monkeypox, but knowing this information could help prevent you from getting or spreading the virus.

Monkeypox is spread through close contact, including through respiratory droplets (kissing, coughing, sneezing), skin to skin contact, or sharing things like bedding or towels.

If you or any recent partners (from the last 21 days) have unusual sores or a rash, go see a healthcare provider, either at a clinic or your primary care doctor. Remind your provider that Monkeypox is circulating.

[Learn More](#)



# Results

**All Grindr users in Europe have received this message over the past week.**

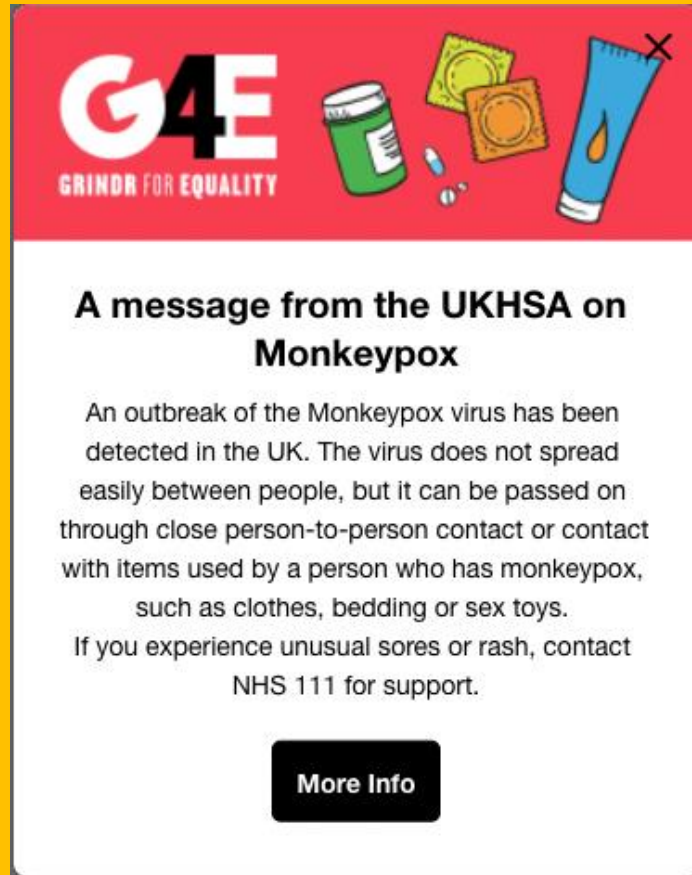
**Of those users, 15.45% clicked through for more information.**

# Click-through Rates by Language

## **13 Languages**

- Croatian: **14.14%**
- Dutch: **14.02%**
- English: **9.99%**
- French: **16.59%**
- German: **14.02%**
- Greek: **15.07%**
- Italian: **19.02%**
- Polish: **18.22%**
- Portuguese: **19.57%**
- Russian: **9.09%**
- Spanish: **12.20%**
- Turkish: **13.09%**
- Ukrainian: **9.67%**

# The United Kingdom



**All Grindr users in the UK have received this message over the past week.**

**Of those users, 7.42% clicked through for more information.**

One difference in the messaging is that the texts points out a way to get information easily by phone, rather than just online.

# Canada

We are seeking connections at the Public Health Agency of Canada

**Thank you for your partnership**

**jack@grindr.com**

**steph.niaupari@grindr.com**

**equality@grindr.com**



# ECDC planned activities



- Surveillance and reporting in the EU/EEA
- Risk Communication activities:
  - Work with STI and EVD networks to identify needs and foster community engagement
  - Messaging for the general public and for MSM communities
  - Provide guidance to countries hosting events in the summer
- Laboratory support and testing practices and approaches
- Guidance on
  - Clinical sample storage and transport (UN 2814 vs UN 3373)
  - Contact management and contact tracing
  - IPC guidance implementation
  - Cleaning and disinfection in healthcare settings and households
  - Clinical management of mild cases
  - Options for antivirals and vaccination approaches
- Modelling approach
- Outbreak investigation activities: transmission studies, EPIET fellowship support

# Discussion

- Questions to speakers
- Tour de table
  - What are the needs for further support?

# Thank you!