



Mpox: A new variant creates a new epidemic

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CAPRISA hosts a
DSI-NRF Centre of
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CAPRISA is the UNAIDS Collaborating
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CAPRISA hosts a MRC HIV-TB
Pathogenesis and Treatment Research Unit
CAPRISA hosts a DoH-MRC Special
Initiative for HIV Prevention Technology



Signs and symptoms of mpox infection

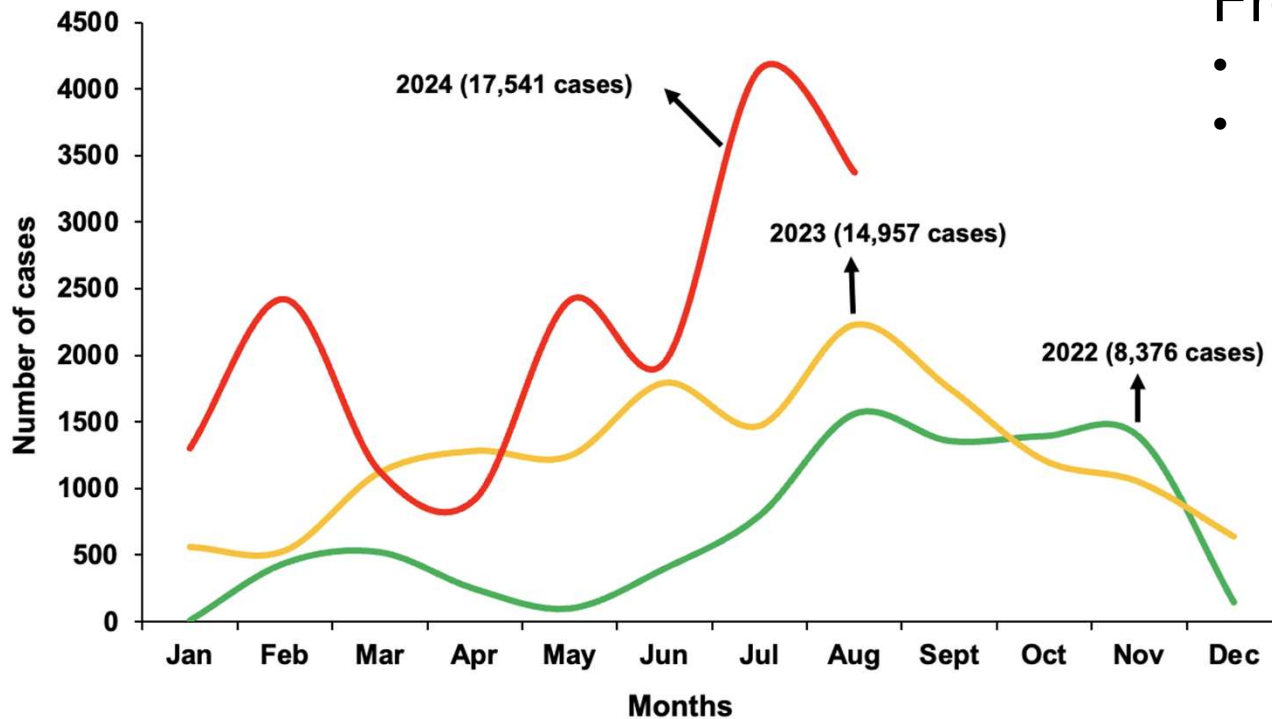
- **Rash on hands, feet, chest, face, mouth and/or genital area**
 - initially look like pimples or blisters and may be painful or itchy



- **Incubation period: 3–17 days (asymptomatic)**
- **Other symptoms: fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes, exhaustion, muscle aches and backache, headache, respiratory symptoms (sore throat, nasal congestion, cough)**

Source: Centres for Disease control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/mpox/symptoms/index.html>

Mpox trends in Africa: 2022 - 2024



From 2022 to date

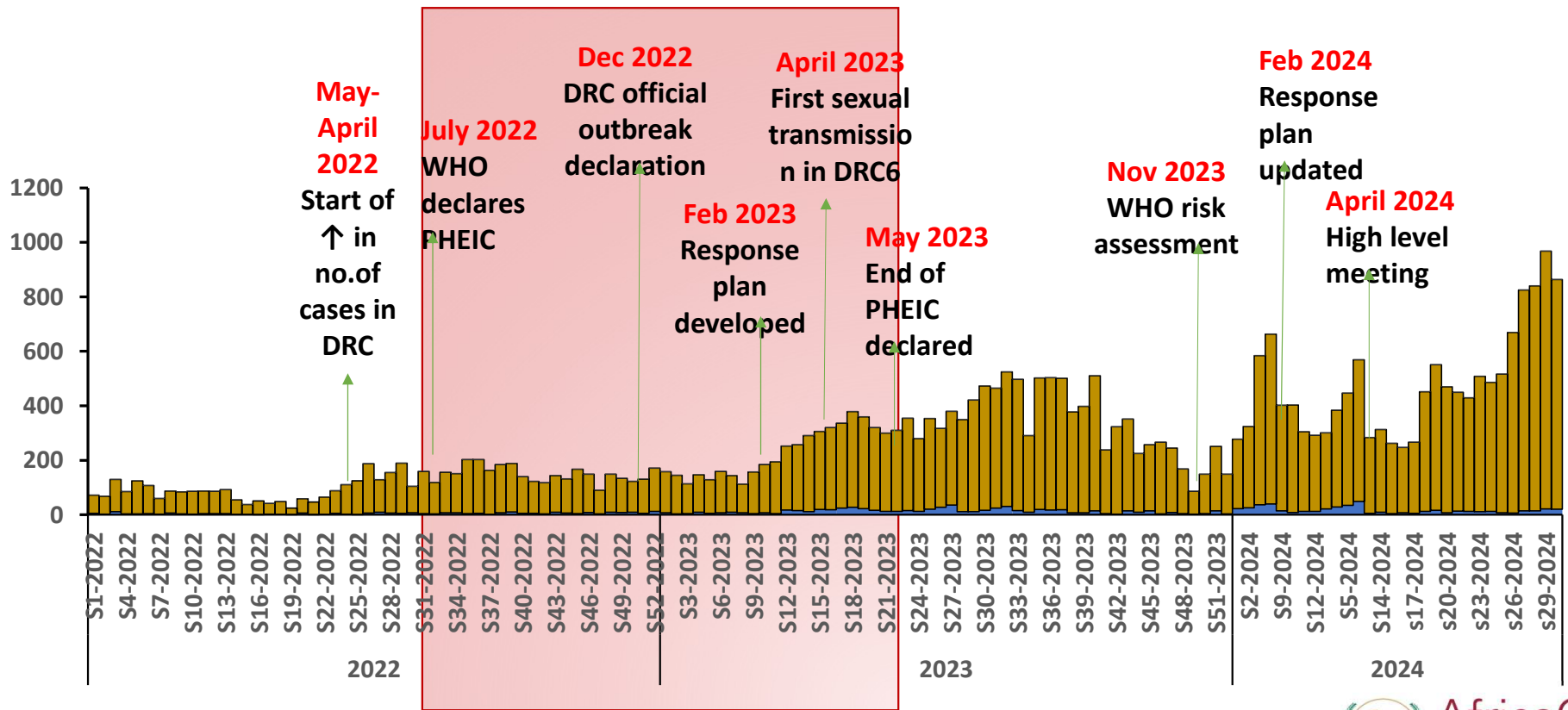
- 40,874 cases / 1,512 deaths
- 15 African Union Member States

160% ↑ 2023 VS 2024 same period

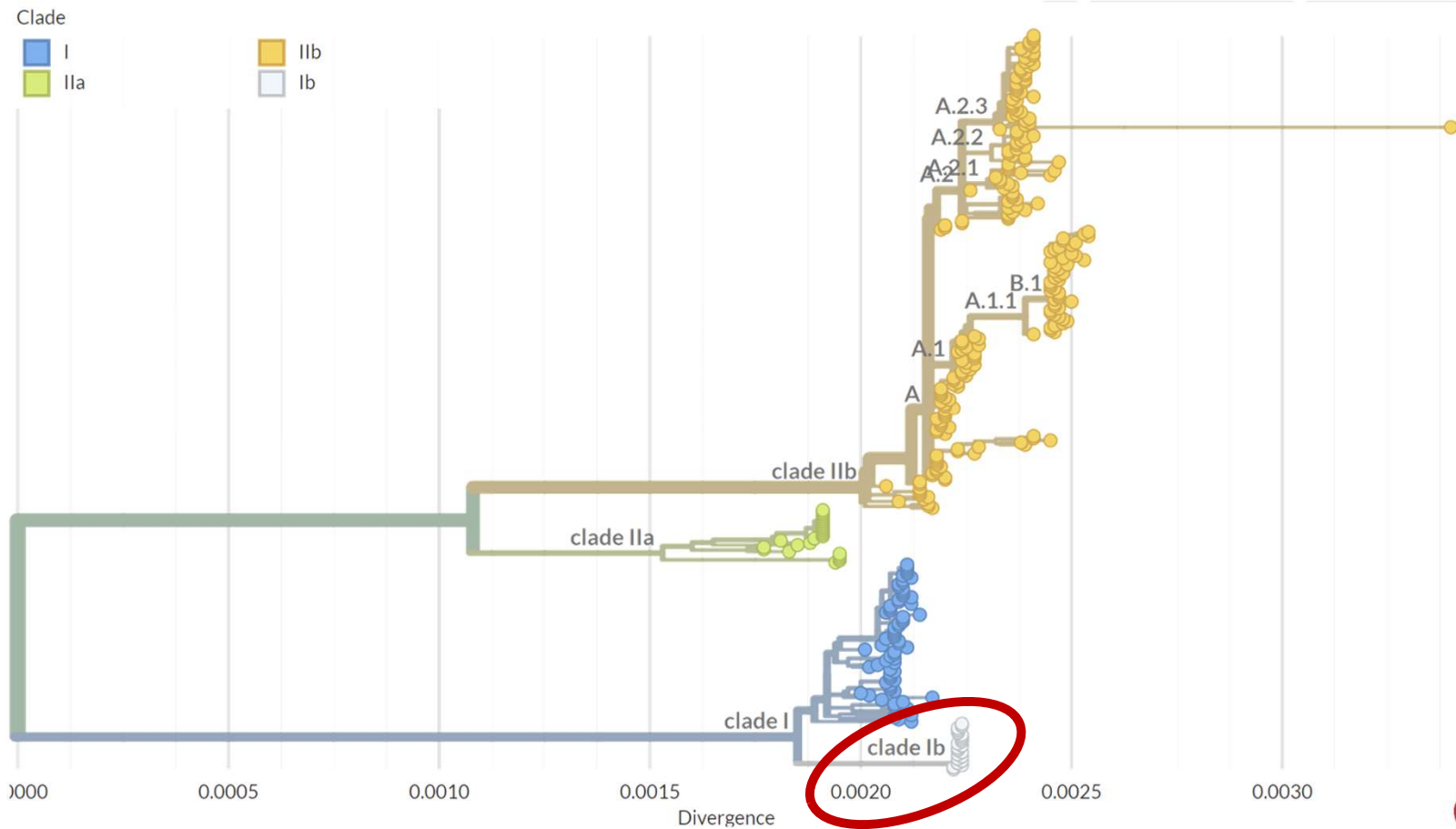
79% ↑ 2023 VS 2022

Mpox in the DRC: Weekly reporting of cases

1 January 2022 to 16 August 2024

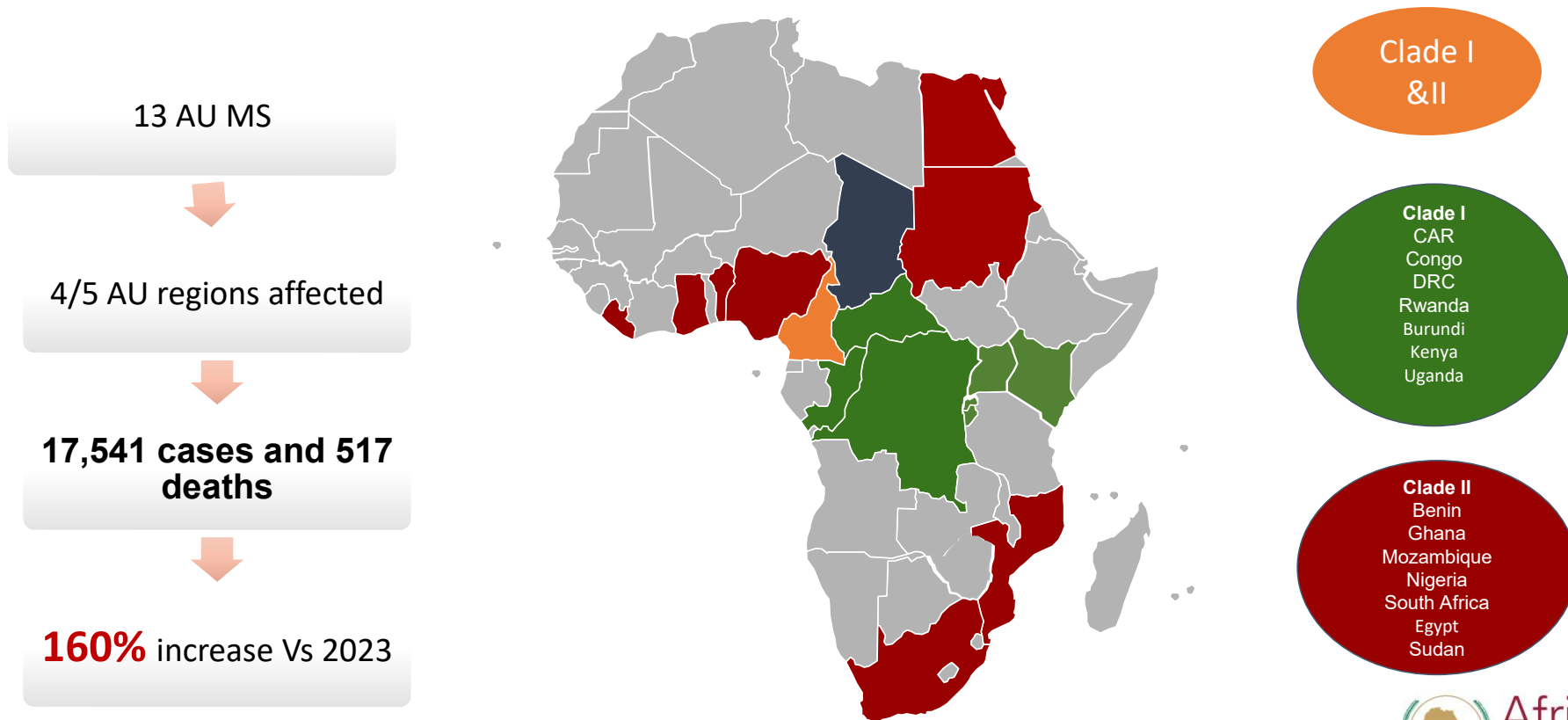


Genomic epidemiology of mpox across clades



Clade distribution of Mpox in Africa

1 January – 10 August 2024



Who is getting mpox in the DRC? (WHO survey)

Category	Number of cases	Percentage
Student	932	51.30%
Non-schooled child	319	17.60%
Farmer	214	11.80%
Housekeeper	208	11.40%
Fisherman	55	3.00%
Others	37	2.00%
Teacher/Professor	16	0.90%
Porter	16	0.90%

Equateur, clade Ia

Category	Number of cases	Percentage
Unemployed	519	24.20%
Student	393	18.30%
Sex worker	364	17.00%
Resourceful/Independent	262	12.20%
Others	135	6.30%
Merchant	127	5.90%
Farmer	125	5.80%
Housekeeper	123	5.70%

South Kivu, clade Ib

Why a PHECS was declared...

- **Acknowledging data limitations:** Reported cases & deaths under-reported
- **High burden of cases:** Cases in Africa are 3 times higher now than in the comparable period when mpox was declared a PHEIC in 2022.
- **Cases are increasing:** Recent rapid increase in cases in an upward trend
- **High case fatality rate:** CFR is between 3% and 4% and the link with HIV is particularly concerning for Africa.
- **Cases are spreading to new countries:** At least 3 countries have new clade 1b cases within last few weeks with potential spread beyond Africa
- **A response plan with greater co-ordination & resources:** To improve testing, surveillance, case detection, contact tracing & ring vaccination