

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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September 27, 2022

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: REPORTING SPECIAL INCIDENTS RELATED TO MONKEYPOX (MPX)

Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) section 4639.6 authorizes the Director of the Department of Developmental Services (Department) to issue directives to regional centers as the Director deems necessary to protect consumer rights, health, safety, or welfare, or in accordance with WIC section 4434. Regional centers must comply with any directive issued by the Director pursuant to this section.

On August 1, 2022, Governor Newsom issued a [Proclamation](#) of a State of Emergency for California in response to the rising number of monkeypox (MPX) cases. The Proclamation supports the work underway to limit the spread of MPX and mitigate its effects, coordinate a government response, seek additional vaccines, and lead outreach and education efforts on accessing vaccines and treatment. Information about MPX is available from the [California Department of Public Health](#).

For all known MPX incidents meeting either criteria #1 or #2 below, regardless of when the incident occurred or became known, regional centers and all providers must complete a special incident report (SIR), even if the incident does not otherwise meet SIR reporting criteria. This information will be used to identify high-risk events and incident trends related to the MPX outbreak and swiftly implement mitigation activities.

1. An individual has been diagnosed with or tested positive for MPX; or
2. An individual has been hospitalized due to MPX.

Regional centers and providers must report all incidents involving individuals receiving regional center services that meet one of these requirements. In the incident report, regional centers and providers must within the SIR Incident Type Code enter "DISMPX", and note in the narrative section whether the individual has been diagnosed with or tested positive for MPX, or been hospitalized due to MPX. Additionally, SANDIS has been updated to allow input of vaccination status for MPX, if known, in the "Date and Type of Vaccination" fields in the immunization record section. This requirement to report applies, and the reporting timeframe begins, when a vendor or regional center becomes aware that one of the criteria above applies, regardless of whether vendored care was being provided at that time.

"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"

Additional Information and Resources

World Health Organization (WHO) [MPX Fact Sheet](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [MPX Homepage](#)

Local County Health Departments' [Immunization Reporting](#)

California Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA):

- [Employer Responsibilities](#)
- Injury and Illness [Prevention Program](#)
- The California Workplace [Guide to Aerosol Transmissible Diseases](#)

Please share this Directive with all providers and your staff. Questions regarding the reporting requirements of this Directive can be directed to oco@dds.ca.gov. Clinical and infection control questions about Monkeypox can be directed to clinicalservices@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



NANCY BARGMANN

Director

cc: Regional Center Board Presidents
Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services
Carla Castaneda, Department of Developmental Services
Pete Cervinka, Department of Developmental Services
Ernie Cruz, Department of Developmental Services
Leslie Morrison, Department of Developmental Services
Christine Gephart, Department of Developmental Services