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Answer given by Ms Kyriakides
on behalf of the European Commission
(18.10.2024)

The Commission and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) are in contact 24/7 with EU/European Economic Area (EEA) countries' public health authorities via the EU's Early Warning and Response System (EWRS). Any confirmed case of MPXV clade I is immediately notified through the EWRS¹. Currently, there is only 1 confirmed case in EU/EEA countries, without onward transmission. Compared to the 2022 outbreak, Mpox cases in EU/EEA countries remain at a low level².

In the Health Security Committee (HSC)³ chaired by the Commission, Member States coordinate their response to the Mpox outbreak and agreed on a common EU approach regarding vaccination policies⁴. The HSC assessed preparedness measures in Member States for a possible introduction of Mpox virus clade I in August 2024. The ECDC published a Risk Assessment⁵, last updated on 17 September 2024⁶. The ECDC gave rapid scientific advice to Member States' health authorities on public health measures to take⁷.

The ECDC has also deployed a public health expert to the Democratic Republic of Congo, and published a website on Mpox⁸, including an epidemiological bulletin⁹.

In 2022 and 2023, the Commission purchased and donated 334 540¹⁰ doses of vaccines to countries participating in the EU4Health programme. The Commission signed a framework contract under the Joint Procurement Agreement with Bavarian Nordic¹¹ for the supply of up to 2 million doses of the Mpox vaccine for participating countries to purchase over the course of 2023/2024. The Commission's Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority is in contact with Member States and there is no indication at this stage that they require more vaccines than available. Mpox vaccines purchased for the stockpiles via rescEU ensure urgent needs are met.¹²

¹ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/early-warning-and-response-system-european-union-ewrs>

² <https://monkeypoxreport.ecdc.europa.eu/#:~:text=Get%20the%20latest%20bulletin%20on%20monkeypox>

³ https://health.ec.europa.eu/health-security-and-infectious-diseases/crisis-management/list-authorities-represented-health-security-committee/health-security-committee-reports_en#:~:text=Health%20Security%20Committee%20reports.%20The

⁴ https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/hsc-recommendations-common-eu-approach-regarding-vaccination-policies-monkeypox-outbreak-response_en

⁵ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/risk-assessment-mpox-epidemic-monkeypox-virus-clade-i-africa>

⁶ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/news-events/mpox-monkeypox-epidemiological-update-week-37-2024>

⁷ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/infectious-disease-topics/mpox/rapid-scientific-advice-public-health-measures-2024>

⁸ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/mpox>

⁹ <https://monkeypoxreport.ecdc.europa.eu/#:~:text=Get%20the%20latest%20bulletin%20on%20monkeypox>

¹⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_5362

¹¹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_6766

¹² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_5482