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Access to Available Monkeypox Therapies

On July 15, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released updated guidance for U.S. healthcare providers to request TPOXX (also called tecovirimat), an antiviral drug that can be used under special circumstances to treat patients with monkeypox. The CDC recently posted information clarifying and highlighting the current TPOXX ordering process, in addition to the guidance that has already been distributed.^{1,2,3} The following information highlights the updated guidance and reexamines access to current therapies for monkeypox.

Key Points:

- TPOXX (also known as tecovirimat), an antiviral, is available through the Strategic National Stockpile¹
- JYNNEOS and ACAM2000, the two vaccines used for pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis, are available through the Strategic National Stockpile²
- Vaccinia Immune Globulin Intravenous (VIGIV), derived from the plasma of smallpox vaccines, is available through the Strategic National Stockpile³
- Cidofovir, an antiviral, is available through the Strategic National Stockpile³
- Brincidofovir, an antiviral medication, is currently not available through the Strategic National Stockpile³
- **To request the above therapeutics, clinicians and pharmacists can contact:**
 1. **Their state/territorial health departments**
 2. **CDC (Emergency Operations Center 770-488-7100; Poxvirus@cdc.gov)**

TPOXX (tecovirimat)

- The CDC holds an Expanded Access Investigational New Drug Protocol (EA-IND) that allows for the use of tecovirimat for treatment of non-variola orthopoxvirus infections (including monkeypox) in an outbreak.
- TPOXX (also known as tecovirimat) is available through the Strategic National Stockpile. To request tecovirimat, clinicians and care facility pharmacists can contact their state/territorial health department or the CDC (Emergency Operations Center 770-488-7100; Poxvirus@cdc.gov).
- Treatment with TPOXX can begin upon receipt of the medication and after obtaining informed consent. No pre-registration is required for clinicians or facilities, however there are certain required elements that must be completed, detailed here: [Obtaining and Using TPOXX | Monkeypox | Poxvirus | CDC](#)¹

JYNNEOS and ACAM2000 Vaccines

- JYNNEOS (Also known as Imvamune or Imvanex) and ACAM2000 are the two vaccines available for monkeypox pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis.
- The CDC recommends vaccination for those who have been exposed to monkeypox and people who are at higher risk of being exposed: [Considerations for Monkeypox Vaccination](#)
- To obtain these, clinicians and care facility pharmacists can contact their state/territorial health department or the CDC (Emergency Operations Center 770-488-7100; Poxvirus@cdc.gov).²

Vaccinia Immune Globulin Intravenous (VIGIV)

- CDC holds an expanded access protocol that allows the use of VIGIV for the treatment of orthopoxviruses (including monkeypox) in an outbreak.³
- It is available through the Strategic National Stockpile, and clinicians and care facility pharmacists can contact their state/territorial health department or CDC (Emergency Operations Center 770-488-7100; Poxvirus@cdc.gov)

Cidofovir

- Cidofovir, also known as Vistide, is an antiviral medication approved by the CDC through an expanded access protocol that allows for the use of stockpiled Cidofovir for the treatment of orthopoxviruses (including monkeypox) in an outbreak.³
- Cidofovir does carry a risk of nephrotoxicity.⁴
- It is available through the Strategic National Stockpile, and clinicians and care facility pharmacists can contact their state/territorial health department or CDC (Emergency Operations Center 770-488-7100; Poxvirus@cdc.gov)

Brincidofovir

- Brincidofovir, is an antiviral medication which the CDC is currently developing an expanded access protocol that allows for the use of brincidofovir for the treatment of orthopoxviruses (including monkeypox) in an outbreak.
- Serious renal toxicity or other events have not been observed with Brincidofovir.
- It is currently **not available** through the Strategic National Stockpile.³

Further information

Additional information, including background, transmission, signs and symptoms, pre-exposure prophylaxis, and post-exposure treatment are available through the IHS NPTC's recently distributed document [Emerging Treatment Update: Monkeypox Potential Pre- and Post-Exposure Therapies](#)⁴.

References:

1. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Obtaining and Using TPOXX \(Tecovirimat\) | Monkeypox | Poxvirus | CDC](#), Published July 15, 2022.
2. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Considerations for Monkeypox Vaccination](#), Published June 30, 2022.
3. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Treatment Information for Healthcare Professionals](#). Published June 22, 2022.
4. Indian Health Service. National Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, [Emerging Treatment Update: Monkeypox Potential Pre- and Post-Exposure Therapies](#), June 30, 2022