

Dear Colleague

Monkeypox – New regulations came into effect on Thursday 16 June 2022

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of the new regulations which came into effect on Thursday 16 June to make monkeypox a notifiable disease and monkeypox virus a notifiable organism.

1. The Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act 2008 (Notifiable Disease and Notifiable Organism) Regulations 2022 amends [Part 1 and 2 of schedule 1](#) of the Public Health etc. (Scotland) Act 2008 (2008 Act) to add monkeypox to the list of notifiable diseases and to add monkeypox virus to the list of notifiable organisms.
2. This regulation triggers duties on registered medical practitioners to share information prescribed in [Part 2, Section 13 of the Public Health etc. Scotland Act \(2008\)](#) with health boards where they have reasonable grounds to suspect that a person they are attending to has monkeypox. This information must then be shared onwards by health boards to the Common Services Agency and Public Health Scotland.
3. The Regulations also have the effect if monkeypox virus is identified by a diagnostic laboratory in Scotland as prescribed in [Part 2, Section 16 of the Public Health etc. Scotland Act \(2008\)](#).

Action

Health boards must ensure that all registered medical practitioners and diagnostic laboratories are aware of the notification requirements for monkeypox and monkeypox virus under Part 2, Sections 13 and 16 respectively of the 2008 Act

Guidance

All relevant guidance for the public health management of monkeypox cases including guidance for Health Protection Teams; laboratories; vaccination; and primary

From the Chief Medical Officer
Professor Sir Gregor Smith

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Addresses

For action

Chief Executives NHS Boards
Medical Directors NHS Boards
Directors of Public Health
Nurse Directors NHS Boards
Primary Care Leads
NHS Boards Infectious Disease Consultants
Consultant Physicians
General Practitioners
Practice Nurses
CPHMs
Accident and Emergency Departments
Virology Laboratories
Scottish Microbiology and Virology Network
Travel Clinics
Directors of Pharmacy
NHS Health Scotland
Health Improvement Scotland
HIS Independent Healthcare
NHS 24 Sport Scotland, Sport & Exercise Medicine

For information

Public Health Scotland
Directors of Dentistry

Further Enquiries to:

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and community care are available on [Monkeypox - Public Health Scotland](#). Infection prevention and control advice for healthcare settings has been incorporated into the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual: [National Infection Prevention and Control Manual: Home](#)

General information on monkeypox for members of the public is available on [Monkeypox | NHS inform](#)

Yours sincerely

Gregor Smith

Professor Sir Gregor Smith
Chief Medical Officer