

# Monkeypox: Epidemiology, preparedness and response for African outbreak contexts

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Monkeypox is a viral zoonotic disease, caused by monkeypox virus, recognized as the most important orthopoxvirus infection after the eradication of smallpox.

This course offers public health officers and health workers in-depth information to understand the epidemiology, modes of transmission, clinical presentation, diagnostics, and treatment of monkeypox, as well as the strategies needed for effective prevention and outbreak investigation and response.

*Photo credit: WHO / Mark V. Szczeniowski*

**The content and scope of this course on monkeypox have been tailored for outbreaks in African countries where the disease is endemic. The course material was last updated in 2021 and may not reflect most recent WHO guidance issued for the multi-country outbreak in 2022.**