

DEMYSTIFYING MONKEYPOX – EXPERIENCE ACROSS CONTINENTS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR AN EFFECTIVE GLOBAL RESPONSE

Monkeypox Virus Outbreak - Ghana

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What is Monkeypox?



- **Monkeypox** is an infectious **viral disease** that can occur in both humans and some other animals.
- First discovered in a colony of monkeys in 1958.
- The first human case of the virus was recorded in the Congo in 1970.



2022 Outbreak of Monkeypox in Ghana

- Part of the larger outbreak of human monkeypox caused by the West African clade of the Monkeypox virus.
- Ghana had no endemic presence of monkeypox until the 2022 outbreak.
- The first [confirmed case of Monkeypox](#) in Ghana was detected on June 8th, 2022 after 12 suspected cases across the Eastern, Greater Accra, and Western Regions were tested.
- By June 13, five more cases were confirmed.
 - One of the patients travelled to the US before the onset of symptoms.



Related Death

- One person died on July 26, from Monkeypox in the Bolgatanga Municipality of the Upper East Region.
- 13 contacts with the victim were monitored as part of the surveillance system.
- The confirmed expired case (first in the region) was seen on the 22nd July 2022, with a history of fever and skin rash.

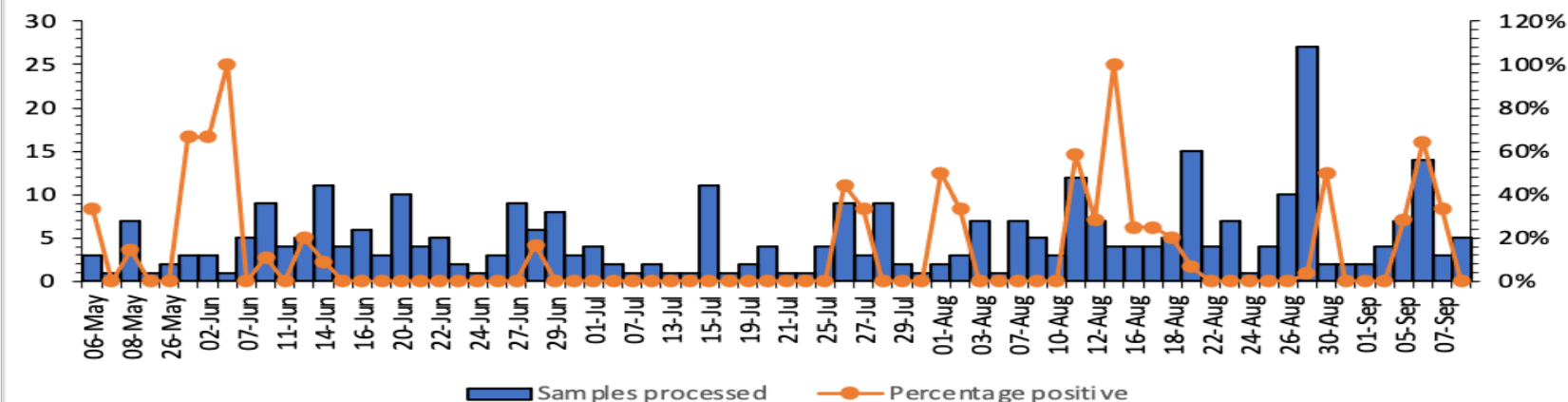
Current Updates

- As of Wednesday, September 7, 2022
- 349* suspected cases of MPXV from 12 regions – received and tested
 - Real time PCR confirmatory testing.
 - Genomic sequencing conducted.
- **49* have been confirmed POSITIVE**
- 30% of all cases are from children under 10 years
- 87% with vesicular rash – consistent with case definition



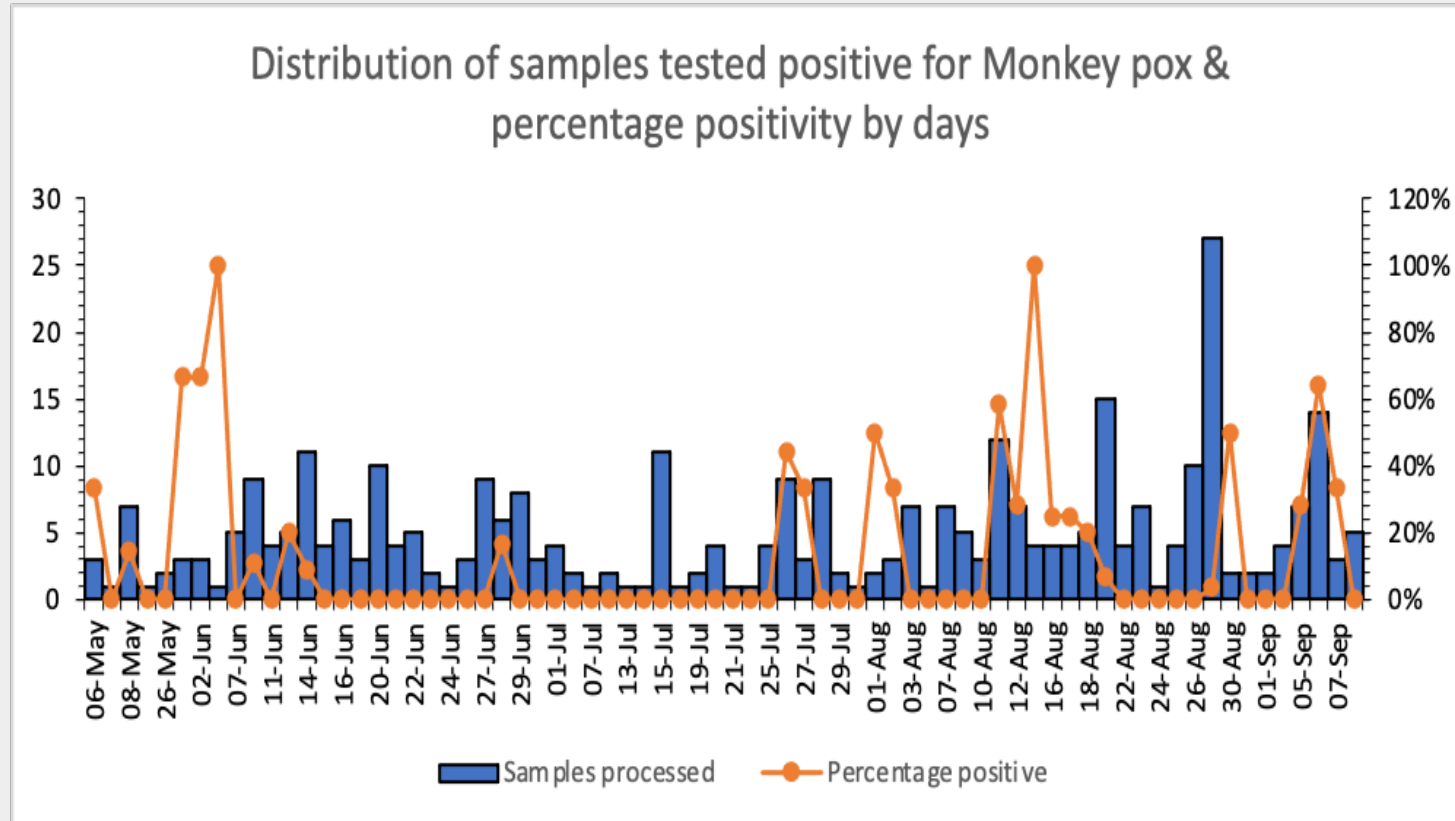
Youngest confirmed case (13 months)

Distribution of samples tested positive for Monkey pox & percentage positivity by days



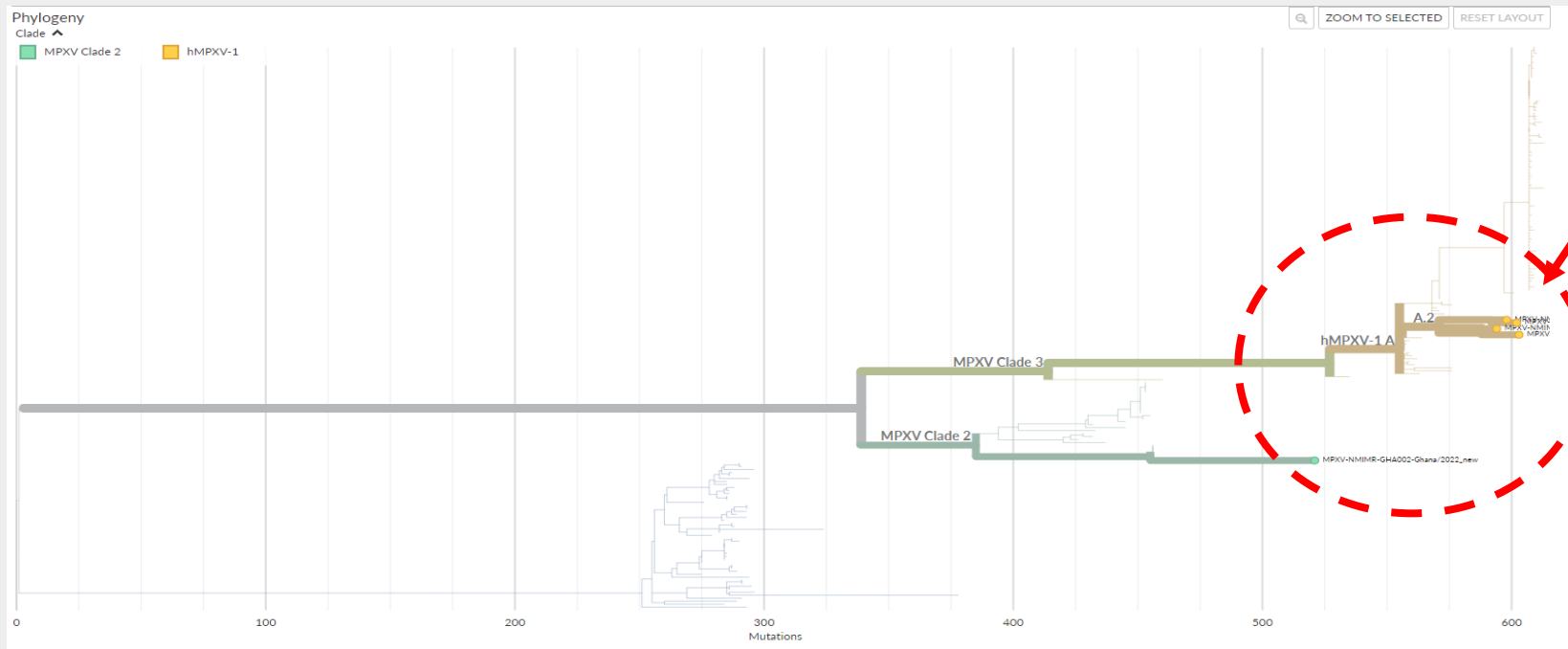
Sex	Samples processed	Monkey Pox Positive	Percentage positive
Females	142	17	12%
Males	205	31	15%
Missing	2	1	50%
Total	349	49	14%

Region	Samples processed	Monkey Pox Positive	Percentage positive
Ahafo	10	0	0%
Ashanti	3	1	33%
Bono East	3	0	0%
Bono	9	1	11%
Central	25	2	8%
Eastern	45	2	4%
Greater Accra	121	32	26%
North East	4	1	25%
Northern	30	1	3%
Oti	5	0	0%
Savannah	6	0	0%
Upper East	38	4	11%
Upper West	10	0	0%
Volta	21	2	10%
Western	9	0	0%
Western North	2	0	0%
Missing	8	3	38%
Grand Total	349	49	14%



First Monkeypox Virus Genomes Sequenced in Ghana

Whole genome sequencing was performed on five (5) PCR positive monkeypox samples from patients. Four (4) of the samples were of the clade hMPXV-1 (Lineage A.2) and clustered closely with previous strains sequenced in the United States. The remaining 1 sample was of MPXV-clade 2 and resembled strains previously identified in rodents in Gambia and the US. We urge the general public to continue adhering to hygienic practices to prevent the spread of monkeypox and report suspected cases promptly to the hospital for treatment.



**4 samples were of the hMPXV-1 clade (Lineage A.2) and cluster closely with strains from the USA.
1 sample resembles earlier strains reported in rodents in Gambia and the USA**



Thank you!



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