Household Isolation Guidance

**Stage 1**
- All cases should stay home (unless it is necessary to see a healthcare provider).
- Avoid close contact with other people and pets in the home.
- People without an essential need to be in the home should not visit.
- If anyone in your home is at high risk of severe disease, it might be necessary to isolate outside of the home.
- Stay in a separate room and use a separate bathroom, if possible. If the same bathroom must be used by others, it should be cleaned and disinfected after use by the person with mpox.
- Avoid kissing, hugging, sleeping in the same bed, having sex or close skin-to-skin contact with other people.
- Do not share bed linens, clothing, towels, drinking glasses or eating utensils.
- Potentially contaminated items and surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected before use by others.
- Clean your own laundry if possible, and avoid shaking used linens and clothing.
- All members of the household should wash hands frequently or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

**Stage 2**
- No fever and respiratory symptoms for 48 hours
- No new lesions have appeared for 48 hours
- Any lesions that cannot be covered have completely healed
- Limited activities outside the home may be resumed with all lesions covered and wearing a mask.
- Avoid crowded settings and direct skin-to-skin contact.
- Work may be resumed if it does not require physical contact with others, is not in a high-risk setting (shelters, healthcare, correctional facilities, school and childcare settings, or care facilities), and cannot be performed virtually.

**Stage 3**
- All skin lesions have healed and scabs have fallen off
- A fresh layer of skin has formed
- Any other symptoms have been resolved for at least 48 hours
- People with mpox may resume all non-sexual activities.

**Stage 4**
- It is strongly recommended to use condoms during sexual activities for 12 weeks after infection.
- There is an unknown risk if mpox virus remains in semen and/or can be spread through sexual activity, even after skin lesions are healed.