



## JYNNEOS—Frequently Asked Questions

### Key Points

- Human monkeypox virus (hMPXV) has been declared a public health emergency and cases continue to rise in the U.S.
- Vaccine supply is low, and demand is high.
- New FDA authorizations allow more people to get vaccinated quickly which is our best shot at protecting people at risk and controlling this outbreak.
- People who are vaccinated should continue to take steps to protect themselves from monkeypox (hMPXV) by avoiding close, skin-to-skin contact, including intimate contact, with someone who has monkeypox (hMPXV).

### What is JYNNEOS?

JYNNEOS is a vaccine approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for prevention of smallpox and monkeypox (hMPXV) in adults 18 years of age and older determined to be at risk for monkeypox (hMPXV) infection. In these people, JYNNEOS is approved to be given beneath the skin (subcutaneously). Two doses of the vaccine given 28 days (4 weeks) apart are needed for best protection.

There is a limited supply of JYNNEOS, and it is the only vaccine approved or authorized for the prevention of monkeypox (hMPXV) in the United States.

### Has there been a recent change in how JYNNEOS is given?

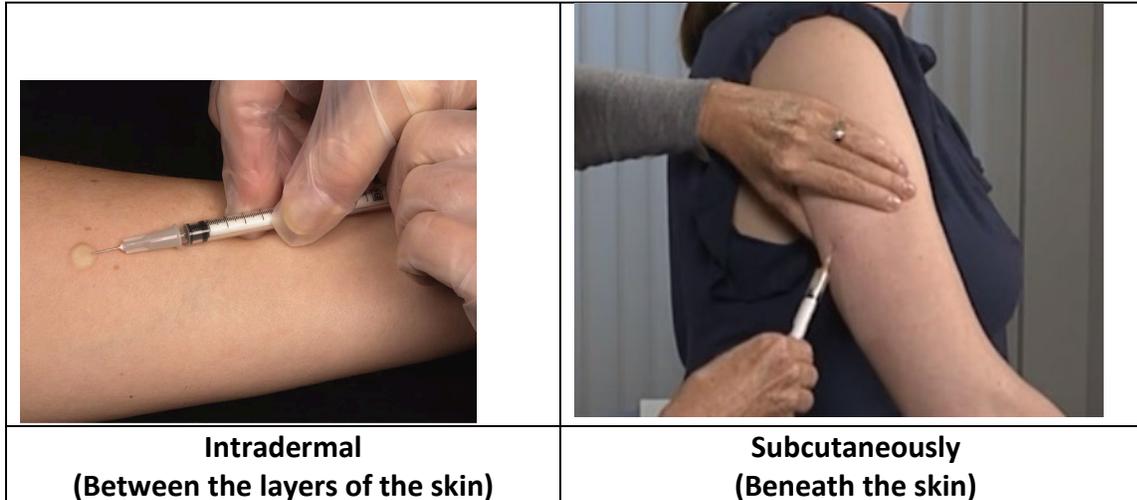
Yes, there have been two recent changes.

- The FDA has authorized the emergency use of JYNNEOS to be given between the layers of the skin (intradermally) to prevent monkeypox (hMPXV) in people 18 years of age and older. When the vaccine is given intradermally less vaccine is needed per dose, increasing the vaccine supply.
- The FDA has authorized the emergency use of JYNNEOS to be given as an injection beneath the skin (subcutaneously) for people younger than 18 years of age.

The changes will help make the vaccine available to more people, promote equitable access, and help to prevent the spread of monkeypox (hMPXV).

### What is the difference between intradermal and subcutaneous vaccine injection?

An intradermal injection is given using a very small needle to inject the vaccine into the layers of the skin causing a small, raised area. Usually, the inner surface of the arm is used for intradermal injections. A subcutaneous injection is given using a slightly larger needle to inject the vaccine beneath the skin. Usually, subcutaneous injections are given in the upper arm.



**Is the intradermal vaccine different?**

No. The vaccine that is given intradermally is the same vaccine that is given subcutaneously. When given intradermally, the dose is lower. One-fifth the dose is used for intradermal injections (0.1mL intradermally instead of 0.5mL subcutaneously).

**How can JYNNEOS protect me if I am receiving a smaller dose?**

The skin is composed of many layers that play an important role in the immune system. Many cells that protect us against infection circulate through the skin. Because the skin is so rich in these immune cells, you can use less vaccine and get a good immune response when you inject intradermally.

Giving a smaller dose of vaccine in this way has been successfully used for other diseases and gives us the ability to protect more people against monkeypox (hMPXV).

**What are the side effects?**

Side effects may include pain, redness, swelling, firmness and itching at the site of injection. People can develop fatigue, headache, muscle pain, nausea, chills, and fever.

People who get the vaccine intradermally might have more itchiness and redness at the site of injection, but less pain than people who received the vaccine subcutaneously. Some people who received the JYNNEOS intradermally also reported small, firm lumps or discoloration of the skin at the injection site. Severe allergic reactions are rare.

### **Has JYNNEOS intradermal route been studied?**

Yes. Early in its development, JYNNEOS was given to thousands of people in Germany by the intradermal route. Also, the JYNNEOS study from 2015\* demonstrated that intradermal administration of 0.1mL produced a similar immune response to subcutaneous injection of 0.5mL, meaning that people in both groups responded to vaccination in a similar way.

\* Vaccine. 2015 Sep 22;33(39):5225-34.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26143613>

### **Is intradermal use new?**

No, there is a flu vaccine given intradermally. Allergy tests and the skin test for tuberculosis, known as the PPD (purified protein derivatives), are done intradermally. Intradermal vaccination has been studied and found to be effective for rabies, and hepatitis B vaccines, as a way to use smaller doses of vaccine while still providing equal protection.

### **If I got the first dose subcutaneously, will I get the second dose intradermally?**

Yes. People who are 18 years of age and older will receive the intradermal vaccine whether this is their first or second vaccine. People who turn 18 after receiving their first dose of subcutaneous JYNNEOS will be vaccinated using the intradermal method for their second dose.

### **Why is it important that we switch to the intradermal method?**

As monkeypox (hMPXV) continues to spread, supply of JYNNEOS will not meet the demand. By using the intradermal route, we can use a lower dose of JYNNEOS for each injection which increases the number of available doses. By increasing the number of available doses, more people who want to be vaccinated against monkeypox (hMPXV) will have the opportunity to do so. This will help us provide fair and equitable access to the vaccine for the people most at risk. Getting more people vaccinated quickly is our best shot at protecting people at risk and controlling this outbreak.

### **How soon after JYNNEOS vaccination am I protected?**

Peak protection is expected to occur 14 days after the second dose of JYNNEOS. We don't know how long the protection will last – it is important to get both shots so that you have the best and longest level of protection. We are still learning how effective JYNNEOS will be in helping to control this outbreak.

People who are vaccinated should continue to take steps to [protect themselves](#) from monkeypox (hMPXV) by avoiding close, skin-to-skin contact, including intimate contact, with someone who has monkeypox (hMPXV).

### **Can I get JYNNEOS with other vaccines?**

Yes, you can get other vaccines on the same day or shortly after JYNNEOS vaccine. The only exception is COVID-19 vaccine. Certain people at increased risk of a condition called myocarditis

(swelling of the heart muscle), including adolescent or young adult males, might consider waiting 4 weeks after JYNNEOS™ vaccination before getting a Moderna, Pfizer or Novavax COVID-19 vaccine.

### **Can I get JYNNEOS if I have underlying medical conditions?**

Yes, you can get JYNNEOS if you are breastfeeding, pregnant, have HIV infection or atopic dermatitis (eczema). You can receive the vaccine if you are immunocompromised (have a weakened immune system). But people with weakened immune systems might not respond as well to the vaccine, so it is important for these people to take steps to protect themselves from coming in contact with monkeypox (hMPXV). You should discuss any concerns you have with your healthcare provider.

### **Who Should NOT Receive JYNNEOS?**

You should not receive JYNNEOS if you had a severe allergic reaction to a previous dose or an ingredient in the vaccine.

People who have a history of a severe allergic reaction to gentamicin, ciprofloxacin, or to chicken and egg protein AND who are avoiding chicken and egg products can receive JYNNEOS under certain conditions but should be monitored for 30 minutes after being given the vaccine. Speak to your doctor to learn more.

### **Can people younger than 18 years of age receive JYNNEOS?**

Yes. The FDA has authorized the emergency use of JYNNEOS to prevent monkeypox (hMPXV) in individuals younger than 18 years of age determined to be at high risk. In these individuals, JYNNEOS is authorized to be given beneath the skin (subcutaneously).

#### ***Please note:***

People 18 years of age and older who have a history of developing keloids (thick, raised scars) are recommended to receive the vaccine subcutaneously. You are less likely to develop keloids after subcutaneous injection although it is still possible to get a keloid at any site of injury/injection.

### **Where Can I Get More Information?**

- Your healthcare provider
- Local health department  
<https://www.nj.gov/health/lh/>
- NJ Department of Health monkeypox (hMPXV) page:  
<https://www.nj.gov/health/monkeypox/about/faqs/>
- CDC Vaccines page:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/vaccines.html>