



Information on the mpox vaccination

What is the mpox (MVA) vaccination?

You are being offered a smallpox vaccination to help protect you against mpox.

The vaccine is manufactured in Europe by Bavarian Nordic¹. When you are given the vaccine, your immune system (the body's natural defence system) produces antibodies against the mpox virus. The vaccine contains a virus which has been modified so that it cannot grow in the human body. This Modified Vaccinia Ankara (MVA) vaccine was developed as a much safer form of the smallpox vaccine used widely in the UK and abroad into the 1970s. The MVA vaccine does not contain smallpox or mpox virus and cannot spread or cause smallpox or mpox.

[1] The vaccine is called Imvanex in the UK and Europe, Jynneos in the US and Imvanex in Canada. These all contain the same MVA vaccine and are made by the same company.

What is MVA used for?

As mpox is caused by a virus similar to smallpox, vaccines against smallpox are expected to prevent or reduce the severity of the mpox infection.

Imvanex vaccine has been authorised by the UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) to protect against smallpox.

The Public Health Agency and the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recommends the use of MVA vaccine as part of the response to cases of mpox.

What is mpox?

Mpox is a serious infectious disease that can present itself in the form of painful skin lesions. These can appear on any part of the body. It is a rare infection most commonly found in central and east Africa. Due to increasing global travel, however, there is a risk of cases locally.

Mpox is usually mild and can get better within a few weeks without treatment.

But if your symptoms are more severe and you become unwell, you will need treatment in hospital.



Protecting you from mpox

This leaflet is for those people being offered the smallpox vaccine to protect against mpox. As mpox is caused by a virus similar to smallpox, vaccines against smallpox are expected to prevent or reduce the severity of the mpox infection.

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Details

Format

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People receiving the smallpox vaccination to protect against mpox

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