



County of San Diego

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San Diego HIV Planning Group (HPG) HPG Monkeypox (MPOX) Task Force Wednesday, September 15, 2022

3:00 PM

Meeting occurred via video teleconference (Zoom)

MINUTES

Quorum is 6

Task Force Members Present: Allan Acevedo, Alberto Cortes, Max Disposti, Cinnamen Kubricky, Bob Lewis, Mikie Lochner (Chair), Patrick Loose, Raul Robles, Dr. Stephen Spector

Task Force Members Absent: Brenda Huerta, Dr. Ankita Kadakia;

Agenda Item	Action/Discussion	Follow-up
1. Call to Order/ Establishment of Quorum	Mikie Lochner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and noted the presence of a quorum.	
2. Action: Continuation of Teleconferencing	All votes at the meeting were taken by roll call; HPG members' names were called out verbally, then individual voice votes were noted and recorded. Action: Continuation of Teleconferencing Meeting Option Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e). a. Find HPG has reconsidered the circumstances of the State of Emergency b. Find that State and local officials continue recommending measures to promote social distancing. Motion/Second/Count (M/S/C): Cortes/Lewis 8/0 Abstentions: Lochner Motion carries	
3. Chair Comments; Ground Rules & Abstentions	The chair reviewed the meeting ground rules and rules for teleconference meetings.	
4. Public Comment (See page 2 of agenda for rules)	UC San Diego/Antiviral Research Center is starting a clinical trial for Tecovirimat for MPOX treatment. To be eligible, someone must have at least one lesion that can be swabbed. Those who are mild or moderate will	

Agenda Item	Action/Discussion	Follow-up
	be randomized but those who are severe or who progress to severe will be placed on the study drug. Contact Marvin Hanashiro at mhanashiro@ucsd.edu or call or 543-3740 for details.	
5. Sharing our concerns/Member Introductions	UC San Diego Mother Child Adolescent Program is also working on the Tecovirimat study and would work with women who are pregnant or children who contract MPOX, if any are identified. Members did self-introductions.	
6. Action: Approval of the HPG MPOX Task Force agenda for September 15, 2022	Action: Approve HPG MPOX Task Force agenda for September 15, 2022 as presented. M/S/C: Acevedo/Lewis 8/0 Abstentions: Lochner Motion Carries	
7. Old Business		
None		
8. New Business		
a. ACTION: Finalize Work Plan	Regarding the order of the work plan, a member asked if the order on the work plan is the same order that items will be addressed. Specifically, vaccine equity is second on the work plan, but the member stated that the committee would really need to consider epidemiology, activity to date, and other data to be able to fully discuss vaccine equity. Patrick Loose will prepare data and vaccine equity will be an agenda item at the next meeting.	Vaccine equity data will be presented at next meeting.
b. Training: Overview of Human Monkeypox Virus (MPOX)	Patrick Loose presented Transmission, Treatment, and Prevention information.	
Training: MPOX Epidemiology	As Dr Kadakia was not able to attend today's meeting, Patrick Loose presented slides for MPOX epidemiology for San Diego County, which were included in the meeting packet.	

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<p>c. Training: MPOX Vaccination Efforts</p>	<p>As Dr Kadakia was not able to attend today’s meeting, Patrick Loose presented the slides, which were included in the meeting packet.</p> <p>A member requested information about how many people have been vaccinated in San Diego and how many have received only one dose. That data will be presented at the next meeting.</p> <p>MPOX updates are available via text line. Text “COSD MONKEYPOX” to 468-311 to sign up for text updates including information about vaccination events.</p> <p>The County website is Human-Monkeypox (sandiegocounty.gov)</p> <p>Telebriefings to the LGBT+ community will continue and, starting in October, will be done on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 10:00.</p> <p>People seeking care at County STD Clinics are asked to a make an appointment to ensure that staff is available to provide care.</p> <p>San Diego gets vaccine from State of California. Additional vaccine has been requested. Amounts distributed by the State is based on a formula that uses number of MPOX and Syphilis cases</p>	<p>How many people have been vaccinated in San Diego and how many have received only one dose?</p> <p>Information about how many vaccine vials are left will be presented at next meeting.</p>
<p>d. Training: MPOX Response Efforts Already Taken.</p>	<p>MPOX update is included in HHSa LGBT+ sector briefing and all other sector briefings.</p> <p>Materials have been developed and are available on the web site and have been distributed to community-based events.</p> <p>There have been several vaccine events and those will continue based on availability of vaccine.</p> <p>HIV education and outreach contracts have been updated to include MPOX.</p> <p>A social media campaign has been launched to include application where men connect for sexual contacts (e.g., Grindr). The goal of campaign is to have 21 million views by the end of the year.</p> <p>Barriers identified: Not everyone is able to take time off during the day to attend a vaccination event, especially on short notice; some men, perhaps especially Black and Hispanic men who are at risk are not ready for vaccination due to stigma; the fact that the intradermal injection may be noticeable for days after injection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members provided the following ideas: • Although the epidemiology shows that men who have sex with men are at highest risk, some of the messaging that emphasizes this risk may not reach men in the African American community if 	

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	<p>they do not identify as gay or bisexual (even if there are engaged in sex with other men). Those messages may get lost. One strategy that has been used in HIV in the past is to emphasize that this is a disease that anyone can get.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events that prioritize or focus on specific communities may also stigmatize those communities. It may be helpful to combine MPOX events with other events, such as COVID testing/vaccinations, which may lessen the stigma. • Events in North County are appreciated but more events are needed in Escondido. • Methods that work in Hillcrest may not work in other parts of the County. Important be careful about how messages are presented. • There may be “vaccination fatigue” in the community so that even though this is a different vaccine, it may be harder to get people’s attention. If this is true, how can this be addressed? • Outreach to the community should include community leaders as trusted sources of information along with health professionals. • Data on County MPOX web site Vaccine page shows the disparity between the rates of infection and the rate of vaccination in Black and Hispanic men. • Although the small number of women means that demographics can not yet be reported, it will be important to track this information as it becomes available • Members asked if there was any information about infection and vaccination rates in the prisons systems. Not available for this meeting but this will be researched and reported at a future meeting 	
<p>e. Discussion: Ongoing Data and Reporting Requests to Support Work of Task Force</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection and vaccination rates in the prison system. • Who is providing messages – the importance of community leaders (e.g., the Pastor of a community church, etc.)? • Data from Substance Use programs and recovery centers. • Confirmed cases among people who have had one or two doses of the vaccine (breakthrough) 	

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f. Discussion: Additional Training Required to Support Work of Task Force	For community training, identifying who is providing the message and how well that matches the community will be important.	
9. Suggestions for consideration of future items	<p>Vaccine equity</p> <p>Will there be a vaccination event during AIDS Walk?</p> <p>Is it possible to learn about community events in advance?</p> <p>Can vaccines be made available for members of specific community at the time outreach efforts are made? When vaccine events become fully booked so quickly, it is very difficult to get those at highest risk scheduled even if they are convinced to get a vaccine. There are some options for access codes, but these are only available one week prior to an event. Once appointments are open to the public, the access codes are no longer valid.</p>	
10. Announcements		
11. Next meeting date	<p>Next Meetings: October 6, 2022 and October 27, 2022</p> <p>Location: Zoom</p>	
Adjournment	PM	