

# Mpox Vaccine:

## Subcutaneous vs. Intradermal Injection Methods

The CDC recommends that vaccination with the JYNNEOS vaccine can be considered for people determined to be at high risk for infection to prevent monkeypox disease. The JYNNEOS vaccine is licensed as a series of two doses given 28 days (4 weeks) apart, regardless of the method of vaccine administration.

### Emergency Use Authorization

In August 2022, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the JYNNEOS vaccine to allow healthcare providers to use the vaccine by intradermal injection for individuals 18 and older who are determined to be at high risk for mpox infection. With intradermal injection, the vaccine dose is 1/5 of the subcutaneous dose. Data from a 2015 clinical study showed that this method of injection produced a similar immune response as a subcutaneous injection. This will allow vaccine supplies to stretch further and safely be given to more individuals.

### Subcutaneous Injection

**A subcutaneous injection is a method of administering medication. Subcutaneous administration involves injecting the vaccine under the fatty tissue beneath the skin, typically injected over the triceps (upper arm) or upper thigh.**

This method of vaccine administration involves administering vaccine subcutaneously with an injection (vaccine dose) volume of 0.5mL. This dosing regimen is considered the standard regimen and is FDA approved.

### Intradermal Injection

**Intradermal injection is a method of administering medication that involves injecting the vaccine just under the skin, usually on the inner side of the forearm. This should produce a noticeable, elevated patch of skin where the medication was injected.**

This alternative method of vaccine administration has emergency use authorization and involves injecting vaccine intradermally with an injection (vaccine dose) volume of 0.1mL.

### FAQ

**I received my first dose subcutaneously, does my second dose have to be given using the same method?**

No. Both injection methods can be used interchangeably. Your second dose can be intradermal, if your first dose was subcutaneous, or vice versa.

**Are there any side effects associated with intradermal injections?**

Administration by the intradermal route resulted in more redness, firmness, itchiness and swelling at the injection site, but less pain, and these side effects were manageable.

**Is there anyone who shouldn't get their vaccine intradermally?**

Children under the age of 18 cannot get vaccinated this way. People with certain skin conditions should talk to their healthcare provider to see what method is best for them.

**Are other vaccines given intradermally?**

Yes. BCG is routinely given through intradermal route, and rabies vaccine can be given through intradermal route as well.

