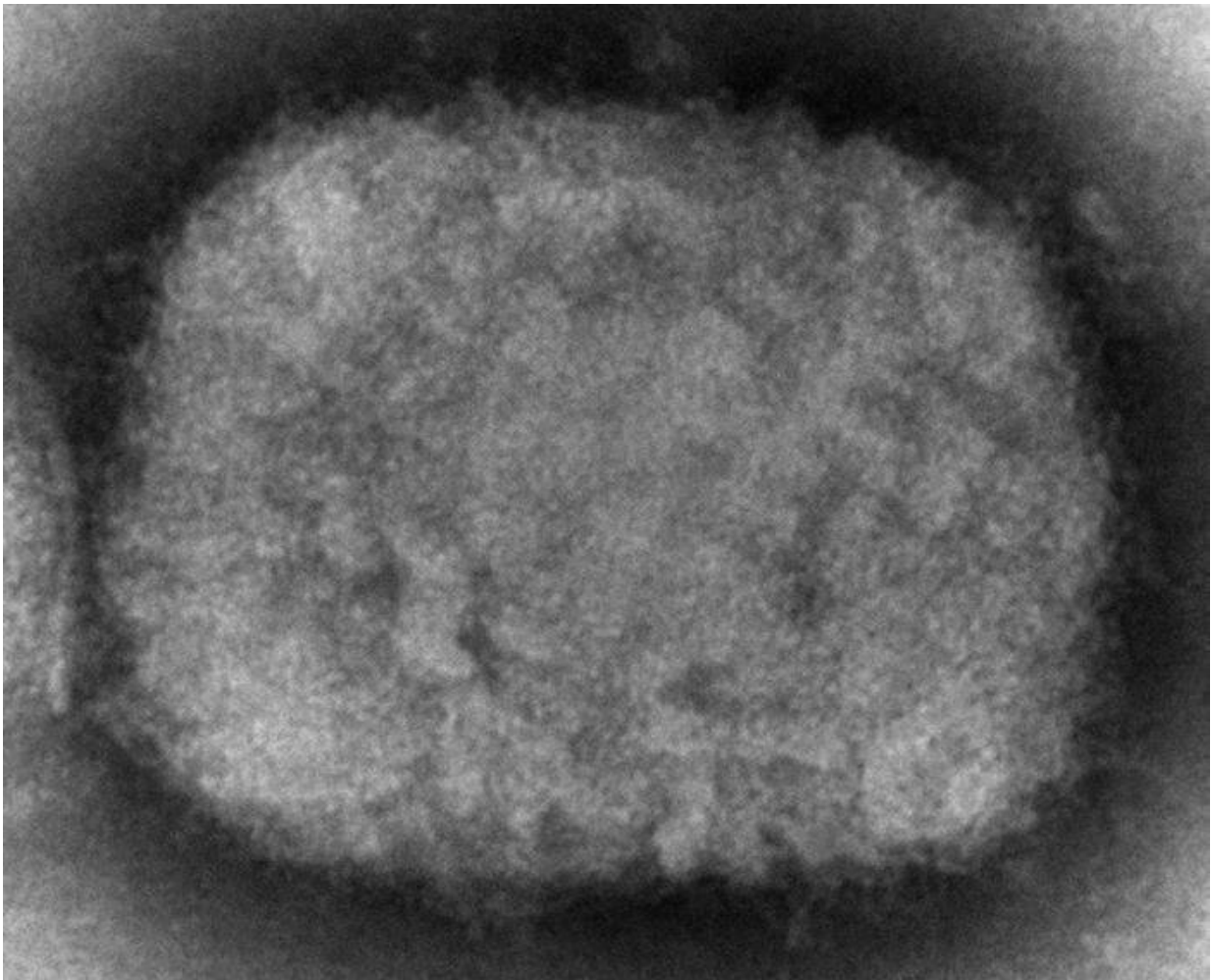


US buys more monkeypox vaccine as global case count grows

June 10 2022, by Mike Stobbe



This 2003 electron microscope image made available by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows a monkeypox virion, obtained from a sample associated with the 2003 prairie dog outbreak. The U.S. government is building up its supply of monkeypox vaccine to contend with escalating cases identified

in a surprising international outbreak, health officials said Friday, June 10, 2022.
Credit: Cynthia S. Goldsmith, Russell Regner/CDC via AP, File

The U.S. government is buying more monkeypox vaccine as a surprising international outbreak continues to grow, health officials said Friday.

As of Friday, the U.S. had identified 45 cases in 15 states and the District of Columbia. More than 1,300 cases have been found in about 30 other countries outside the areas of Africa where the virus is endemic.

Officials say the risk to the American public is low, but they are taking steps to assure people that medical measures are in place to deal with the growing problem.

A two-dose vaccine, Jynneos, is approved for [monkeypox](#) in the U.S.

The U.S. government has 72,000 Jynneos doses, and will get 300,000 more doses from its manufacturer, Bavarian Nordic, over the next several weeks, said Dawn O'Connell, who oversees the government's stockpile of emergency vaccines and treatments.

On Friday, the government announced it had ordered 500,000 more Jynneos doses from Bavarian Nordic to be delivered late this year. The company also is holding other doses owned by the U.S. government, she said.

"We have the vaccines and treatments we need to respond," said O'Connell, of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Monkeypox is endemic in [parts of Africa](#), where people have been

infected through bites from rodents or small animals. It does not usually spread easily among people.

Last month, cases began emerging in Europe and the United States. Many—but not all—of those who contracted the virus had traveled internationally. Most were men who have sex with men, but [health officials](#) stress that anyone can get monkeypox.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Friday that every U.S. case they had looked at involved very close contact.

Officials have alerted doctors to watch for monkeypox cases and offered vaccinations to people in contact with those who were infected.

So far, over 1,400 [vaccine](#) courses and over 110 treatment courses have been sent to affected state and local jurisdictions, officials said.

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