

Skin changes in the genital area during monkeypox identified

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In the setting of the current monkeypox outbreak it is important to consider different clinical courses. This includes skin changes/lesions that are primarily localized at the presumed inoculation sites, a low

exanthematous component, and onset of general symptoms only over the course of the illness.

Ricardo Niklas Werner and colleagues present the case of a 30-year old man with painful, itchy skin [lesions](#) localized mainly in the genital region, which had been present for ten days. Examination revealed skin-colored, centrally indented, partly ulcerated, fibrin-covered papules and hemorrhagic crusts up to 1cm in [diameter](#) on the [penis](#), scrotum, and lower abdomen, and to a lesser extent elsewhere, as well as inguinal lymphadenopathy.

Because of the patient's history of multiple male sex partners, Werner et al. suspected monkeypox despite the limited spatial extent of the rash and the delayed onset of general symptoms. PCR analysis of a lesional swab confirmed the diagnosis of the West African variant of monkeypox.

The findings are presented in *Deutsches Ärzteblatt international*.

More information: Ricardo Niklas Werner et al, Monkeypox: a localized rash followed by general symptoms, *Deutsches Ärzteblatt international* (2022). [DOI: 10.3238/arztebl.m2022.0250](https://doi.org/10.3238/arztebl.m2022.0250)

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