



WHO declares smallpox epidemic in Africa.

Description

The announcement of a global health emergency by the World Health Organization due to a surge in cases of mpox in African nations has raised concerns worldwide. The infectious disease, caused by the monkeypox virus, has spread rapidly across 13 countries in Africa, prompting the WHO to issue its second emergency declaration in two years. The emergence of new, more contagious strains of the virus has added to the urgency of the situation.

With over 17,000 reported cases in 2024, the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention has noted a significant increase from previous years. Tragically, 500 deaths have been reported, underscoring the severity of the crisis. International assistance is being sought to combat the outbreak and prevent further spread.

The zoonotic nature of mpox, transmitted from animals to humans, has contributed to its rapid dissemination. Human-to-human transmission has also been reported, indicating the potential for further escalation. While efforts are underway to contain the outbreak, concerns remain about the virus's ease of transmission and the need for enhanced prevention measures.

Symptoms of mpox are similar to smallpox but generally less severe. Rash development is a key indicator, with distinct stages of lesion formation and healing. Vaccination efforts are crucial to curbing the spread of the disease, with millions of doses needed to address the current outbreak in Africa.

In response to the crisis, the WHO has allocated funds for immediate assistance and is preparing to seek additional support from donors. The coordinated global effort to combat mpox underscores the importance of rapid intervention and collaboration in addressing public health emergencies of this magnitude.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Surge** /sɜːrdʒ/ (noun): A sudden and powerful increase.
2. **Infectious** /ɪnˈfɛkʃəs/ (adjective): Capable of causing infection or disease.
3. **Contagious** /kənˈteɪdʒəs/ (adjective): Able to be transmitted from one individual to another.
4. **Zoonotic** /zuːəˈnɒtɪk/ (adjective): Relating to diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans.
5. **Dissemination** /dɪˌsɛmɪˈneɪʃən/ (noun): The act of spreading something especially information widely.
6. **Curbing** /ˈkɜːrbɪŋ/ (verb): Reducing or controlling something.

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What is the name of the infectious disease causing the global health emergency in African nations?
Option: Smallpox
Option: Monkeypox
Option: Ebola
Option: Zika virus
2. How many reported cases of mpox were there in 2024?
Option: 5,000
Option: 10,000
Option: 17,000
Option: 20,000
3. What is a key indicator of mpox infection?
Option: Fever
Option: Headache
Option: Rash development
Option: Cough
4. What type of transmission has been reported for mpox?
Option: Animal-to-animal
Option: Human-to-human
Option: Environmental
Option: Foodborne
5. What organization issued the global health emergency declaration?
Option: CDC
Option: WHO
Option: UNICEF
Option: Red Cross
6. What is crucial to curbing the spread of the disease?
Option: Social distancing
Option: Vaccination efforts
Option: Hand washing
Option: Quarantine measures



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Monkeypox 2. 17,000 3. Rash development 4. Human-to-human 5. WHO 6. Vaccination efforts

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is a unit used to measure the energy content of food?
Option: Kelvin
Option: Calorie
Option: Decibel
Option: Ampere
2. Which term refers to the chemical processes that occur within a living organism to maintain life?
Option: Metamorphosis
Option: Metabolism
Option: Melatonin
Option: Molecule
3. What is defined as the sudden increase in the occurrence of a disease in a specific geographic area?
Option: Outburst
Option: Outbreak
Option: Outcome
Option: Outrage
4. Which term describes a sudden and large increase in something especially a disease?
Option: Swivel
Option: Surge
Option: Swoop
Option: Swathe
5. What term refers to the ability of a disease to be transmitted among individuals?
Option: Tranquility
Option: Translucency
Option: Transmissibility
Option: Transection



6. Which approach considers the whole person including physical mental and social aspects?

- Option: Hypothetical
- Option: Holographic
- Option: Holistic
- Option: Hydraulic

7. What term describes a disease that can spread from person to person?

- Option: Cautious
- Option: Contagious
- Option: Curious
- Option: Courageous

8. What is false or inaccurate information that is spread unintentionally?

- Option: Disinformation
- Option: Misinformed
- Option: Misinterpreted
- Option: Misinformation

9. What is the process of providing or obtaining the food necessary for health and growth?

- Option: Nourishment
- Option: Nutcracker
- Option: Nutrition
- Option: Nomenclature

10. What term describes the degree to which a substance can damage an organism?

- Option: Tenacity
- Option: Toxicity
- Option: Tranquility
- Option: Timidity

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. _____ represents the total amount of energy that a person uses in a day.

12. Individuals who have been exposed to a contagious disease may be _____ to prevent the spread.

13. The evidence presented in the case was so _____ that the jury had no choice but to convict the defendant.

14. _____ is the process by which the body breaks down food into nutrients that can be



absorbed.

15. Regular exercise and a balanced diet are essential for overall health and _____

16. The concept of nature versus nurture highlights the _____ between genetic inheritance and environmental influence.

17. Some athletes use protein shakes as a _____ to their diet to enhance muscle recovery.

18. A social worker may _____ for policies that benefit marginalized communities.

19. A lack of funding can greatly _____ scientific progress in medical research.

20. The rapid _____ of information through social media can sometimes lead to the spread of false news.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)



21. A sudden and serious event requiring immediate action to handle.
22. Pressure or tension on an object system or individual.
23. Deliberately avoiding ignoring or rejecting someone.
24. Able to be transmitted from one person to another.
25. A disease that can be transmitted between animals and humans.
26. Restraining or controlling something to limit or prevent its growth.
27. Attempting to sell promote or praise something.
28. The amount by which something is too small or less than what is needed.
29. A person who publicly supports or recommends a particular cause or policy.
30. Create difficulties for someone or something resulting in delay or obstruction.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Calorie 2. Metabolism 3. Outbreak 4. Surge 5. Transmissibility 6. Holistic 7. Contagious 8. Misinformation 9. Nutrition 10. Toxicity

Gap-Fill: 11. E expenditure 12. Quarantined 13. Compelling 14. Digestion 15. Well-being 16. Dichotomy 17. Supplementation 18. Advocate 19. Hinder 20. Dissemination

Matching sentence: 1. Emergency 2. Strain 3. Shunning 4. Infectious 5. Zoonotic 6. Curbing 7. Touting 8. Deficit 9. Advocate 10. Hinder

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL5

Date Created

2024/08/16

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