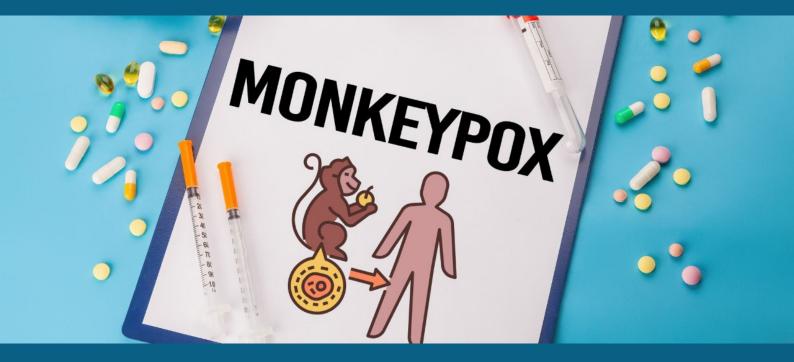
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INSIGHT

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Monkeypox

As cases of monkeypox infection in Jakarta have multiplied over the past 10 days, the Health Ministry is on alert for the virus as epidemiologists highlight the importance of tracing.

Indonesia reported six confirmed cases of monkeypox virus since mid-October with all of the patients men aged 25 to 35 in Jakarta, including two in nearby Setiabudi.

Monkeypox or mpox is a viral illness caused by the monkeypox virus. Symptoms include skin rash or mucosal lesions which can last 2-4 weeks accompanied by fever, headache, muscle aches, back pain, low energy, and swollen lymph nodes. It can be transmitted to humans through physical contact with someone who is infectious, with contaminated materials, or with infected animals.

Mpox is treated with supportive care. Vaccines and therapeutics developed for smallpox and approved for use in some countries can be used for mpox in some circumstances. The Ministry has also been administering free mpox vaccination to people with the highest risk, targeting 447 as a start, at Klinik Carlo in Salemba and select public health facilities (puskesmas).

Yours truly, the community editor

