



**GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY
(NPHA)**

Address: 42A Main Motor Road, Wilberforce, Freetown

Contact: (+232) 78 111111/77 111111

Email: info@npha.gov.sl | Website: www.npha.gov.sl



PRESS RELEASE

Freetown – 11th September 2024

For Immediate Release

Sierra Leone's Continued Vigilance Amidst Mpox Outbreaks in Neighbouring Countries

The National Public Health Agency (NPHA) and Ministry of Health (MoH) are working hard to keep Mpox out of Sierra Leone. Mpox is a viral disease that has recently caused outbreaks worldwide, including in our neighboring countries of Guinea, Liberia, and Côte d'Ivoire.

Although there are no Mpox cases reported in Sierra Leone to date, we are taking all steps to be prepared. We are working with our neighbors and global partners to stop Mpox from entering our country. If it does enter, we will act quickly to stop it from spreading.

Here is what we are doing:

- Checking people more carefully at all entry points (airports, seaports, land crossings)
- Educating people about Mpox symptoms and how to prevent it
- Improving cleanliness in public places and health facilities
- Having emergency teams ready to act
- Working with international health groups

These measures have proven effective in controlling similar outbreaks in the past, including Ebola and COVID-19.

What you should know about Mpox:

- It can spread from animals to people and between people
- Signs of Mpox include fever, skin rash, and swollen glands
- If Mpox comes to Sierra Leone, we are in a position to respond adequately and contain the spread of the virus.

Keeping everyone safe is very important to us. Please follow health guidelines and tell a health worker right away if you see any signs of illness.

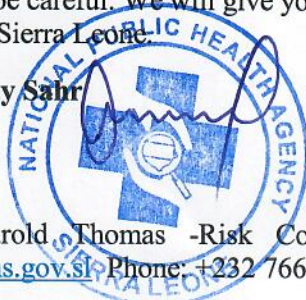
How you can help:

- Get information from official sources
- Wash your hands often and stay clean
- Tell a health worker quickly if you feel sick in an unusual way
- If you suspect you or someone in your community has Mpox symptoms, please call 117 immediately for guidance
- Stay away from sick people or animals
- Avoid stigmatizing or discriminating against those who may be infected

Please stay calm but be careful. We will give you more information as things change. Together, we can prevent Mpox from reaching Sierra Leone.

Brig. Gen. Prof. Foday Sahr

Executive Director



Media Contact: Harold Thomas -Risk Communication Lead/Health Education Manager Ministry of Health
health.education@mohs.gov.sl Phone: +232 766 024 60