

**DECLARATION OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH  
AND MENTAL HYGIENE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY CONCERNING THE  
MONKEYPOX VIRUS**

**WHEREAS**, on July 23, 2022, the World Health Organization declared the ongoing monkeypox outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 28, 2022, the New York State Department of Health declared the monkeypox virus an imminent threat to public health; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 29, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul declared a State disaster emergency for the State of New York as a result of the spread of the monkeypox virus; and

**WHEREAS**, I find the continuing widespread transmission of monkeypox internationally and locally to be a threat to public health in the City of New York; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 556 of the New York City Charter and Section 3.01 of the Health Code, the Department is authorized to supervise the control of communicable diseases and conditions hazardous to life and health and take such actions as may be necessary to assure the maintenance of the protection of public health; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 17-104 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York directs the Department to adopt prompt and effective measures to prevent the communication between parts of the City infected with a virus such as monkeypox; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 3.01 of the Health Code, I am authorized to declare a public health emergency and issue orders and take actions that I deem necessary for the health and safety of the City and its residents when urgent public health action is necessary to protect the public health against an existing threat;

**NOW, THEREFORE,**

1. I, Ashwin Vasani, M.D., Ph.D., Commissioner of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, hereby declare, pursuant to section 3.01(d) of the New York City Health Code, the existence of a public health emergency within the City of New York for which certain orders and actions may be necessary to protect the health and safety of the City of New York and its residents, and for which exercising the power of the Board of Health to prevent, mitigate, control and abate the current emergency presented by the monkeypox virus may be necessary. I find there to be sufficient proof to authorize a declaration of great and imminent peril to the public health.
2. This Declaration shall be effective immediately and remain in effect until the end of the public health emergency or such earlier time as I may indicate pursuant to section 3.01(d) of the New York City Health Code.



Dated: 7/30/22

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Ashwin Vasani, M.D., Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Health