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Is Monkeypox a “Public Health Emergency”?

The World Health Organization, against expert advice, declared Monkeypox a public health emergency. A week earlier, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services extended the COVID-19 public health emergency through October. Are these emergencies or political maneuvers?

The Covid emergency declaration extends to mid-term elections, maintaining federal Covid benefits and possibly impacting votes. I'm not sure about the monkeypox declaration but if experts disagreed, there's likely politics afoot.

Notably, monkeypox is spread by direct contact with lesions, 95.5 percent of the patients are men, most are homosexual, and there have been only five deaths worldwide. Is this an emergency? No.

“HHS renews COVID-19 public health emergency another 3 months,” Robert King, Fierce Healthcare, July 15, 2022: <https://bit.ly/3oHgVJo>

Monkeypox outbreak is officially a public health emergency, WHO chief says,” Helen Branswell, STAT, July 23, 2022: <https://bit.ly/3SebEXi>

“WHO: 14,000 monkeypox cases worldwide, 5 deaths,” Stephanie Soucheray, CIDRAP News, July 20, 2022: <https://bit.ly/3bh31e1>

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