## Global Threats of M-Box: Act Now or We Never Win

## (formerly Monkeypox):

#### Prof. Dr. Abdellatif Elmor

## Professor of Public Health, Zagazig University, Egypt

Three months after the World Health Organization (WHO) declared monkeypox a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, The Cases start to slightly decline but it's not cause for celebration just yet.



Just because a disease like monkeypox appears to be controllable does not mean it will stay controllable simply because: the nature of the virus and its ability to mutate and international travel means that cases are likely to spread back to the rest of the world. Scientists stressed that this is the time to use vaccines and antivirals to control the virus before it mutates into a bigger threat. Unfortunately, both of vaccines and treatment are not accessible to control efficiently yet.

### **Epidemiology**

Since 1 January 2022, cases of mpox have been reported to WHO from 110 countries across all 6 WHO regions, a total of 83,497 laboratory confirmed cases and 1,694 probable cases, including 72 deaths, have been reported to WHO. Since 13 May 2022, (As of December 23 2022).

The ongoing outbreak is largely developing in men who have sex with men.WHO assesses the global risk as **Moderate**. But high in in the **Region of the Americas** 

#### **Transmission:**

- Monkeypox spreads from person-to-person through close contact with someone who has a monkeypox rash.
- Close contact can mean being face-to-face (such as talking, breathing or singing close to one another which can generate droplets or short-range aerosols); skin-to-skin (such as touching or vaginal/anal sex); mouth-to-mouth (such as kissing); or mouth-to-skin contact (such as oral sex or kissing the skin).
- Men Who have sex with men: the ongoing outbreak of mpox continues to primarily affect men who have sex with men (from 85 94 %)

### Why We have to avoid stigma by all means?

- We are a doctors and we treat people regardless their cause of disease ,race , sex, religion...etc.
- Sex is not the only way of transmission.

## Why Mbox still have global threat?

Ongoing Transmission: The number of last epidemiological week reported new cases globally has increased by 123.3% in week 51 (19 Dec - 25 Dec)



- No Accessibility to specific efficient Treatment
- No accessibility to specific vaccine

# **Conclusion and Recommendation**

- Prevention is the most accessible and feasible way to control Mbox
- Use the power of Religion can help too much to control the disease.

## The Challenges to prevent future epidemic

- Political Commitment and International Alliances
- Increase the Budget of Health Specially for Preventive medicine
- Building capacity of health workforce specially public health
- Scientific Research
- Enhancing the Digital Health development and using of Social media
- Use the power of Religion.