



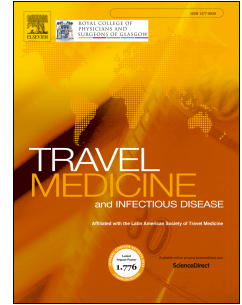
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## **Recommending Adequate Training for Community Health Care Workers to Limit Monkeypox Transmission in India**

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Dear Editor,

We have recently read the article “ A review on insights and lessons from COVID-19 to the prevent of monkeypox pandemic” (Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease, Volume 50, November–December 2022, 102441) [1]. I congratulate the authors for providing the readers with in depth discussion regarding the necessary steps needs to be taken by the government to curb monkey pox transmission. The article is timely and aids in alerting the health officials to prevent virus transmission.

In the article, the authors have provided several recommendations to be implemented by government policymakers. These recommendations are definitely noteworthy and needs to be followed. In addition to this, we take the liberty of including additional inputs which could benefit the readers.

However, In India, with 70% of the country’s population in rural areas, limited health care access, community healthcare workers (CHWs) can help in promoting access to health care systems and aiding psychosocial support [2,3]. Therefore, appropriate training to CHWs is an essential element in curbing MPX transmission and must be one among the recommendations. Let us not forget the importance and impact made by CHWs played during COVID-19. They were crucial for contact tracing the delivering health amenities to conserved communities and remote villages [4]. The local populations value CHWs highly and frequently refer to them as physicians, making them very accessible for any health issues. Due to their lack of formal training, uncertified CHWs play a significant role and put patients at danger [3]. Early CHW induction and training would stop the MPX infection rise in rural regions and slow the spread of the disease.

The authors also recommended “Allocating sufficient funds to identify the transmission pattern of the disease, zoonotic hosts, reservoirs and vectors of the MPXV”. In addition to this, we would also recommend to allocate sufficient funds to provide incentives to the CHWs which will motivate them to perform better.

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*Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease* requires that all authors sign a declaration of conflicting interests. If you have nothing to declare in any of these categories then this should be stated.

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