

Spain reports second Monkeypox death

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Health authorities are administering 5,300 vaccines that Spain received from the joint EU vaccine purchase scheme [Alain Jocard/Reuters]

Madrid, July 30 (RHC)-- Spain has reported a second death in as many days from Monkeypox, its health ministry has said. The ministry gave no details on the deceased in its statement on Saturday. It reported its first death from the disease on Friday.

These are believed to be the first confirmed deaths from Monkeypox since its outbreak in the European Union. "Among the 3,750 [Monkeypox] patients ... 120 have been hospitalised and two have died," the

ministry said in a report, without specifying the date of the second death.

It said the victims were “two young men”, and that studies were under way to gather more epidemiological information on both cases. The global Monkeypox outbreak has seen more than 21,00 cases in nearly 80 countries since May.

There have been 75 suspected deaths in Africa, mostly in Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where a more lethal form of Monkeypox is spreading than in the West. Brazil also reported a death linked to Monkeypox on Friday.

Spain's health ministry reported that 4,298 people were infected with the virus as of Friday, making it the leading European country for Monkeypox cases. Of that total, some 3,500 cases were of men who had had sex with other men. Only 64 were women.

Health authorities are administering 5,300 vaccines that Spain received from the joint EU vaccine purchase scheme. Health workers say that is far fewer than the number needed to cover the at-risk groups.

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