Smallpox: Quick Review

- Two clinical forms: *Variola major* and *minor*
- No currently approved drug
  - Why vaccination was so important back then
- Eradicated in 1979
  - Although recent fears about bioterrorism threat
- Transmitted by contact with infected fluid
  - Rare case: airborne
- We are only natural hosts!

[See Wikipedia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smallpox)
Clinical Symptoms

Days 1-3: Pre-eruption phase
Days 4-5: Papules & pustules
Days 6-10: Papules & pustules
Days 11-14: Scabs
Monkeypox - 2003

- Milder form of smallpox
- Rodents from Ghana were shipped to US on 4/9/03
- Came into contact with prairie dogs at Texas animal distributor
- Within 3 months, 32 confirmed and 81 suspected cases (no fatalities)
- 6 states affected
- CDC quickly issued embargo on African rodents

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/monkeypox/qa.htm

http://www.simonsrodents.co.uk/caresheet
Implications

• Incident highlights public health threat from importing non-native pets.

• Could carry diseases that we have no prior exposure to

• Lucky that monkeypox relatively mild