

VCHIP VDH COVID-19 Q&A Chat – July 20, 2022

Wasting a Vaccine Vial is Not a Concern

Question: Would love some guidance, our office apparently got direct communication from state that we were wasting too much of the Covid vaccine. We are a small practice and trying to get vax in arms, which may mean we open a vial for one person. This communication made our staff start turning people away day of and trying to group schedule later on, which as we know, leads to attrition. Thoughts?

Answer: Meghan Knowles, Vermont Department of Health: Thank you for bringing that to our attention Dr. Miller. Can you please send the details of that communication to AHS.VDHImmunizationProgram@vermont.gov? We do not want you turning any patients away and waste is not a concern.

PSA Announcements on Vaccine Safety

Hi, also need more PSA announcements encouraging the vaccine and its safety for the 6 month through 4 year group as parents are beginning to say they want to wait and see how it goes! Those who've been waiting are no problem. Just those on the fence.

Meghan Knowles, Vermont Department of Health: We will pass along the request for PSA announcements to our communication team. CDC has a great resource for when to vaccinate after COVID infection, Clinical Guidance for COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/interim-considerations-us.html#infection>

Thanks. I just think it helps parents to hear the information from multiple sources.

Merideth Plumpton, RN, Vermont Department of Health: I agree!

When to Administer Vaccine After COVID Infection

Please report when to start after the child has had a case of COVID. I thought it was 3 months, but I am hearing that the vaccine clinics were informed that it is sooner.

Merideth Plumpton, RN, Vermont Department of Health: People with known current SARS-CoV-2 infection should defer any COVID-19 vaccination, including booster vaccination, at least until recovery from the acute illness (if symptoms were present) and criteria to discontinue isolation have been met.

In addition, people who recently had SARS-CoV-2 infection may consider delaying a primary series dose or their first or second COVID-19 vaccine booster dose by 3 months from symptom onset or positive test (if infection was asymptomatic). Studies have shown that increased time between infection and vaccination may result in an improved immune response to vaccination. Also, a low risk of reinfection has been observed in the weeks to months following infection. Individual factors such as risk of COVID-19 severe disease, COVID-19 community level, or characteristics of the predominant SARS-CoV-2 strain should be taken into account when determining whether to delay getting a COVID-19 vaccination after infection. That is the excerpt from the link Meghan posted :-)

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Age Transition Dosing

Question: Is the VDH/CDC guidance about age and dosing of COVID vaccine in alignment with the AAP FAQ and quick dosing guide?

Answer: Merideth Plumpton, RN, Vermont Department of Health: CDC recommends using the vaccine for the age of the child at the time of vaccination.

There are several ‘acceptable’ scenarios that are all considered valid when a child transitions from one vaccine product to another due to age. The best resources are linked below:

[CDC - Transitioning from a younger to older age group](#)

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/Moderna-Child-Age-Transition-508.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/Pfizer-Child-Age-Transition-508.pdf>

Announcement: Vaccine Forums for Under Age 5

Stephanie Winters, Vermont Medical Society: AAPVT Chapter plans to hold two more family forums on the under 5 vaccines for families! I will send links and please share broadly!

Merideth Plumpton, RN, Vermont Department of Health: Thank you, Stephanie. So important to get the word out!

COVID-19 Under 5 Vaccine Chat with Dr. Leah Costello Recording Link

Stephanie Winters, Vermont Medical Society: On July 11th, the American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter was joined by a local pediatrician for a chat to discuss the COVID-19 vaccine for children under 5. You can view the recording for this session here,

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQG1sp1IEPI&list=PL0AXSDdLID0qJqcOBxO8f-jwgUdfn_42v&index=2. We hope to hold other chats throughout the summer.

Candidate Meeting Link

Can you show the link to the candidates meeting again?

When/Where: tomorrow/Thursday, July 21, 12 – 1 p.m. Join by Zoom (no registration required):

<https://vtmd.org/2022-vms-primary-candidate-forum>