## VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



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## **Technology Notes**

#### 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.

If you dialed in or out, unmute by pressing #6 to ask a question (and press \*6 to mute).

Presenters: Please avoid the use of speakerphone and make sure your computer speaker is muted if you dialed in via phone.

2) To ask or respond to a question using the *Chat* box, type your question and click the *p* icon or press Enter to send.

Chat (Everyone)	≣*
Everyone	



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## Overview

 Celebrating anniversary of the dedication of the Statue of Liberty (October 28, 1886)

- Congratulations LAD fans: (WaPo) "Justin Turner celebrates title w/Dodgers after being pulled over for a pos. coronavirus test" https://www ers-pre
- Reminder: weekly event schedule
  - VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays; Governor's Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with Commissioner Levine Thursda
- □ Situation, VDH, CDC updates; Tuesday media briefing
- Practice Issues: Updated School and Sports Guidance
- Q & A, Discussion

[Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly -

so the information we're providing today may change quickly]









# Situation update





DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

### 6 days until Election Day! #VoteKids

 69.5+ million ballots cast to date (> half all votes counted during entire 2016 presidential election per U.S. Elections Project)

### □ U.S.: 8.8 million+; 226,681 deaths

- https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-uscases.html (updated 10/26/20)
- Past week: av. 69,814 cases/day (increase of 32% from average 2 weeks ago)
- 1.1 million+ deaths worldwide

#### □ VDH Weekly Data Summary (10/23/20):

- https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/ COVID19-Weekly-Data-Summary-10-23-2020.pdf
- Weekly Spotlight Lab Reporting: how the Health Department receives COVID-19 testing results from laboratories.



October 28, 2020



## Situation update



UNDERSITY OF VERMONT LARNER COLLEGE OF WEDGINE

#### Current, Recovered and Total Case Counts

School Name Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total of All Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	11	25

- Vermont School Based COVID-19 Transmission (dashboard)
  - https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Transmission-Schools.pdf
  - New this week: table now updated Tuesday w/data through previous Sunday; removed "Recovered" category.
  - Case update: almost one new case per day in staff/students; almost all **adults**
- □ VT College & University dashboards:

VDH Updates

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening
- St. Michael's College: 37 cases (total updated following today's call). Multiple policy changes: moved to all on-line learning; no in-person activities; takeout dining only; off-campus internships/student teaching all virtual; all students are asked to not leave campus; no more than 10 people can gather in common VERSpaces or outside and off-campus guests are not allowed.

## **CDC** Updates

MMWR (early release): COVID-19-Associated Hospitalizations Among Health Care Personnel (HCP) – COVID-NET, 13 States, March 1- May

31, 2020 (https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/pdfs/mm6943e3-H.pdf)

- 6% adults hospitalized w/COVID-10 = HCP (36% in nursing-related pos.; 73% had obesity). 28% adm. to ICU, 16% w/mech. ventilation; 4% died.
- Implication: CP can have severe COVID-19–associated illness, highlighting the need for continued infection prevention and control in health care settings as well as community mitigation efforts to reduce SARS-CoV-2 transmission.
- MMWR: COVID-19 Mitigation Behaviors by Age Group US, April–June 2020 (<u>https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/pdfs/mm6943e4-H.pdf</u>)
  - Self-reported engagement in mitigation behaviors differed signif. by adult age group: prevalence lowest among 18–29 yo & highest among >60 yo. Mask wearing increased over time, but other behaviors decreased/unchanged.

VERMOM plication: prioritize communication/policies among young adults.



## From the New York Times

- Protecting Your Birth: A Guide For Black Mothers (Oct. 22, 2020) https://www.nytimes.com/article/black-mothers-birth.html
  - Black women in America have >3X higher risk of death related to pregnancy/ childbirth than white peers, regardless of higher ed/financial status (as much as 5X higher for >30 yo). Recommendations (for pregnant women and for providers):
  - Step 1-Acknowledge Race and Racism In The Room; Step 2-Create a Care Plan Anticipating that Racism May Impact Pregnancy; Step 3-Identify How Racism May Impact Labor; Step 4-Identify How Racism May Impact Postpartum
  - Recent context: Dr. Chaniece Wallace (peds chief resident, Riley Children's/ IU) died of postpartum complications following b. of her daughter by C-section at 35 wks.
- Respecting Children's Pain (pediatrician Dr. Perri Klass, The Checkup) <u>https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/26/well/family/respecting-childrens-pain.html</u>
  - New study (The Lancet) challenges those who care for children to end what

researchers say is the common undertreatment of pain in children, starting at birth

# Tuesday Media Briefing (10/27/20)

**Governor Phil Scott** 

- Topics: UVM participation in COVID-19 vaccine trial; VT Voting Update; Modeling Update; Health Update
- Updated recreational sports guidance in response to VT ice sports outbreak and those in neighboring states
- Challenging, but VT adding more layers of protection...while other states have suspended activities.
  - E.g, limit recreational leagues to in-state only w/VT-only teams; tighten policy re: social gatherings.
  - Ripple effect of outbreak impacted schools, work, other settings





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Dr. Beth Kirkpatrick, Director LCOM Vaccine Testing Ctr.

Oxford/Astra Zeneca trial



- National update: 4 vaccines in phase 3 trials w/2 more potentially starting by year end (through Phase 1, but don't yet know safety & immune response).
- Designed by Oxford: ~10-15K doses already out; seeking 30K subjects at 80 sites in US. Vermont: 250 volunteers (1/3 receive placebo, 2/3 receive vaccine); Will follow subjects up to 2 years.
- □ Comments from Dr. Ben Lee: "exciting development!"
  - VTC group worked at astonishing rate to get this trial off the ground here. The US trial design is well considered with an appropriate follow-up. VTC would not be offering this trial unless safety and rigor are maximized to the utmost.





Vermont 2020 Election Voting Update

- VT Secretary of State Jim Condos
- □ Vote by mail: 200K to date.



- □ SOS office worked w/VDH to assure safe in-person voting 11/3/20
- By day end 10/26/20, >208K total votes case: = 2/3 total votes cast in last Presidential election.
- □ Two unwavering goals:
  - Preserve voting rights for every eligible Vermont voter
  - Protect the health and safety voters, town clerks, election workers (safety kits distributed)

## Reviewed all remaining options



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## Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)

Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- □ Recent uptick in Vermont 3<sup>rd</sup> period of accelerated growth.
  - Concern re: started recent uptick w/slightly higher base compared to earlier.
- National: case growth really accelerating ("not just testing" positivity rate < 4% to above 6%).</li>
- □ Regional cases up 21%; travel map down to 800K+ eligible to not quarantine.
- □ VT: 1<sup>st</sup> week w/cases in all 14 VT counties. Restart metrics all good.
- □ Forecast more rapid trajectory of increase; we can dampen w/mitigation.
- Flu: cont'd high uptake vaccine at 38% of goal & ahead of last year by 13%.
  Younger, older age groups doing well 20-30 yo range still not as good as last year.
- □ Schools: 25 cases in 19 diff schools; higher ed. cases incr. from St Michael's







## **Tuesday Media Briefing**

Health Commissioner Dr. Mark Levine

- Multiple simultaneous outbreaks among relatively unrelated groups and individuals.
  - Spread from original cases to their contacts & contacts of contacts, crossing situations and geographic regions of the state.
  - Schools especially are impacted "this is really a wake-up call for us all."
- Vermonters should seriously consider their activities and interactions with others right now – "difficult choices." Small gatherings can have big impact. "It is best to not travel at this time."
- Celebrate Halloween safely by following basic guidance: "keep 6-foot spaces, masks on faces, and avoid crowded places."





#### Spread of the Outbreak Related to Exposure at a Central Vermont Recreational Facility



Data are accurate as of 10/26/20

## The spread from the initial outbreak has led to 4 separate outbreaks



# **Practice Issues**

# **Updated School Guidance**

### **Updated Sports/Organized Sports Guidance**







October 28, 2020

## Updated Sports/Organized Sports Guidance (10/26/20)

 9.1 Sports/Organized Sports Including Youth Leagues, Adult Leagues, Practices, Games, and Tournaments [Note: still awaiting winter sports guidance from AOE]
 https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-be-smart-stay-safe-order#sports-and-organized-sports

#### Selected highlights:

- Vermont-based sports teams may only participate in sporting events in Vermont, and these events may only occur between or involve Vermont-based teams. Any Vermont based athlete or team that chooses to leave the state to participate in a recreational sports practice, scrimmage, pick-up game or competition, must complete a quarantine before returning to work, school or attending public events. This guidance applies even if the sports event is taking place in a county identified as eligible for quarantine-free travel on the state's cross-state travel map.
- All players, coaches, officials, staff, and spectators should complete a health check before arriving at practice sessions, scrimmages, games, meets or competitions, including a temperature check.





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#### Selected highlights (cont'd):

- Consistent with the most current guidance available from the American Academy of Pediatrics, all children and adolescents (thru age 22) diagnosed with COVID-19 infection, regardless of symptom severity, may not return to play until asymptomatic for at least 14 days and cleared by their primary care physician. Adult athletes or others (e.g., referees) who exercise vigorously during an athletic event diagnosed with COVID-19 infection should not return to play or vigorous exercise until asymptomatic for two weeks and cleared by their physician.
- Avoid congregating before, during, and after practice; promote an "arrive, play, and leave" mentality. Players, coaches and officials should arrive for practices, games, meets and competitions dressed to play to the maximum extent practicable and limit time spent in locker rooms. Any locker room use must adhere to all physical distancing and masking







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#### Selected highlights (cont'd):

- Outdoor Sports guidance categorized by intensity of contact (low/moderate/high)
- Indoor Sports COVID-19 is more likely to spread in closed indoor spaces with poor ventilation, meaning indoor sports are inherently higher risk, and outdoor alternatives should be utilized to the maximum extent practicable. Guidance categorized by intensity of contact.
- Spectators number of spectators should be limited as much as possible & measures put in place to ensure social distancing between households. Interactions between spectators & participants to be minimized before/during/after events. Spectators actively discouraged from attending practices/scrimmages: total # of people shall not exceed current limits on event size (150 for outdoor events). Large outdoor facilities (trail networks, ski areas, multivenue facilities) may have >150 people as long as no single gathering/event exceeds 150 people & all guests can maintain 6 feet of physical distancing between households.





# Summary: School Guidance Changes (slide 1/3)

#### **Revised School Guidance now available – Highlights:**

https://education.vermont.gov/documents/guidance-strong-healthy-start-health-guidance

- Clarifications and emphasis on quarantine guidance for out-of-state travel
  - Added the requirement of a daily travel screen for staff and students
- Clarity around return-to-school after illness, including links to the return-to-school algorithm and parent guidance
- Clarification on cleaning schedule when an individual is sent to the isolation room, as well as cleaning of the isolation room
- Clarification on factors the Health Department will use in making recommendations when there is a case of COVID in school
- □ Added winter weather considerations for buses and transportation
- □ Added recommendations for seating charts in the school bus, cafeteria, classrooms
- □ Added link to guidance on mask exemptions





# Summary: School Guidance Changes (slide 2/3)

#### Highlights and incorporation of supplemental guidance as prev. published in AOE FAQs:

- Clarified guidance on cleaning and disinfecting, including accidental large volume spills or body fluids.
- □ Added guidance on the use of plexiglass/plastic barriers
- Clarified guidance on shared materials and lockers
- Younger students for the purposes of physical distancing requirements is now defined as students in PreK through Grade 6
- Clarified guidance on <u>minimum</u> physical distancing requirements for younger and older students
- Clarified guidance on performance arts
- □ Added new guidance on physical education
- □ Added new guidance on driver education (as published in the AOE FAQ)
- Added new guidance on the public use of school facilities (as published in the AOE FAQ)





# Summary: School Guidance Changes (slide 3/3)

#### Highlights and incorporation of supplemental guidance as prev. published in AOE FAQs:

- □ Added new guidance on indoor field trips
- Clarifications on isolation space
- □ Additional guidance on HVAC requirements
- □ Additional guidance on the use of cafeterias in Step III
- Explanation on the use of 6-feet to determine close contacts for the purposes of contact tracing, as well as additional instruction for schools for contact tracing
- □ Additional resources for schools from the Health Department and CDC





## Happening Soon: Vermont Medical Society 207<sup>th</sup> Annual & Collaborative Meeting

### https://vtmd.org/annual-meeting



### AGENDA: 2020 VIRTUAL VMS ANNUAL MEETING & COLLABORATIVE MEETING WITH VTAFP, VPA & AAPVT

#### A.M. SESSION

8:00: Zoom Opens! 8:15: Welcome 8:30-10:30: <u>VMS Annual Business Meeting</u> 10:45-12:15: Awards Presentations

#### P.M. SESSION

12:25-12:45: Welcome

- 12:45-1:45: Creating an Organizational Culture Through Equity w/ Marie-Elizabeth Ramas, M.D., FAAFP
- 1:45-2:30: Impacts of Delayed Care on Health Care Outcomes w/ Fan Tait, M.D., FAAP
- 2:45-3:45: Family Detention, COVID, and the Ethical Duties of Doctors in Immigration Detention w/ Scott Allen, M.D., FACP
- 3:45-4:45: What Does the Next Year in Healthcare Look Like in Vermont? w/ Commissioner Mark Levine, M.D., Secretary Michael Schirling, & Commissioner Michael Pieciak
   4:45- 5:00: Wrap-Up





### Vermont's Interim COVID-19 Vaccination Plan and Executive Summary

### https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19-vaccine

*"While we look forward to a safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine, we hear the fears expressed by many that political pressure is being applied to rush approval of a vaccine before it has been properly tested. Let me be clear. We stand with science."* 

Mark Levine, MD, Commissioner of Health



Answering YES to any of these questions lowers your risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. The more, the better!

#### **LEARN MORE:** HealthVermont.gov/StaySafeVT



#### VERMONT **STAYING SAFE WHILE** LIVING YOUR LIFE

As life gets back to normal, Vermonters need to know the risks when making plans or going out.

Consider these factors when deciding if you feel comfortable in any situation.



Any of these will lower your risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. The more, the better!

#### LEARN MORE: HealthVermont.gov/StaySafeVT

## Request Your Assistance: Youth E-Cigarette Use

- Please look for and complete a survey to inform VCHIP's Quality Improvement Project to Address E-Cigarette Use in Vermont Youth
  - https://redcap.med.uvm.edu/surveys/?s=PHXPWHDFED
- Goal: assess primary care providers' knowledge and attitudes about youth vaping. Results will inform educational webinar content.
- SEE: email from Stephanie Winters Oct. 13 open to ANY health care professional who provides primary care for adolescents and young adults, including NPs and PAs
- □ Thank you from VCHIP's Non-Vaping Team!







## Special Message for Vermont Voters

- Vermont Secretary of State's video/ad starring the former "World's Most Interesting Man" (Jonathan Goldsmith) & his dog!
   https://www.facebook.com/SecretaryOfStateJimCondos/videos/2614 79291906510
- □ "Vote early, my friends!"





sos.vermont.gov







## Questions/Discussion

- □ Q & A Goal: monitor/respond in real time; record/disseminate/revisit later as needed.
- □ For additional questions, please e-mail: <u>vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu</u>
  - What do <u>you</u> need how can we be helpful (specific guidance)?
- VCHIP CHAMP VDH COVID-19 website: <u>https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip\_champ\_vdh\_covid-19\_updates</u>
- Next CHAMP call: Friday, October 30, 12:15-12:45 (current schedule: M-W-F)
- □ Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:

*Thursday, October 29, 12:30-1:00 p.m. –* Zoom platform & call information:

□ Join *Zoom* Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJ1ZFQ2R3diSVdqdlJ2ZG4yQT09

- Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684
- One tap mobile +1 646 876 9923, 86726253105#, 0#, 540684# Dial In- +1 646 876 9923 / Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684



