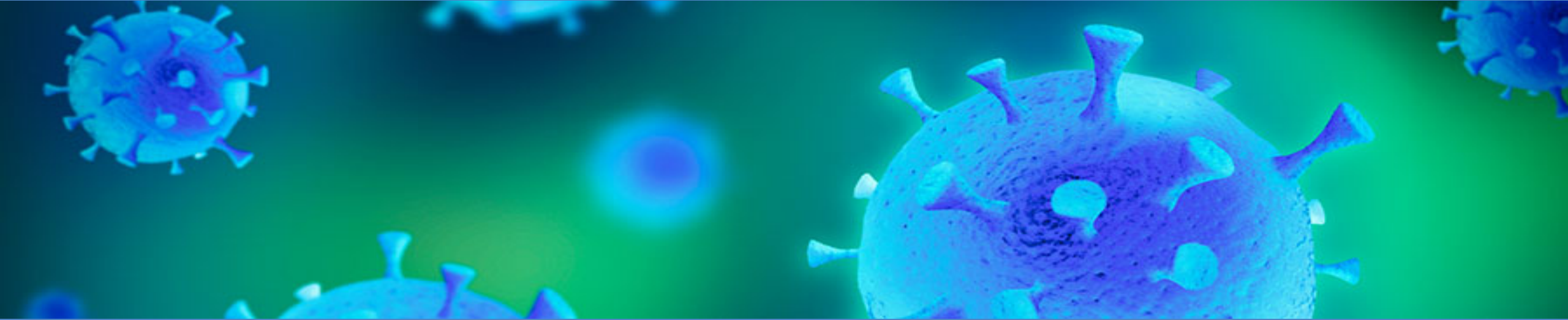# VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES

Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM

Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH

November 23, 2020

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 💬 icon or press Enter to send.
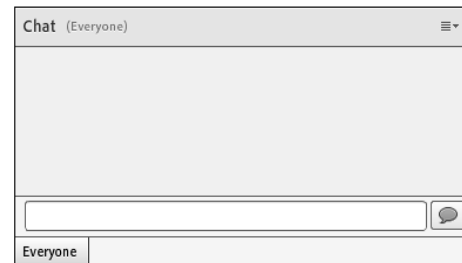
Overview

- **Celebrating Woolfenoot!**
  - Also: **Eat a Cranberry Day**
- *Reminder:* weekly event schedule
  - **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays**; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with Comm. Levine **Thursday (but not _this_ week!)**
  - **This week: VCHIP-VDH calls <u>Monday</u> & <u>Wednesday</u> ONLY**
- Situation, VDH, CDC, AAP, UVM HN updates
- Practice Issues: **Testing & School Updates**
- Q & A, Discussion

VT Cranberry Co. Fletcher, VT

[Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly – so the information we're providing today may change quickly]

November 23, 2020

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Situation update

New Cases	**85**
	3,714 Total
Currently Hospitalized	**18**
Hospitalized In ICU	**3**
Hospitalized Under Investigation	**1**
Percent Positive 7-day Avg.	**1.6%**
People Tested	**215,433**
Total Tests	**523,227**
Recovered	**2,300**
	61.9% of Cases
Deaths	**63**
	1.7% of Cases
Travelers Monitored	**193**
Contacts Monitored	**115**
People Completed Monitoring	**10,924**

Last Updated: 11/23/2020, 10:56:34 AM

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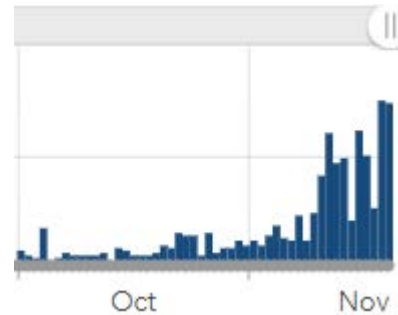
VT New Cases/Deaths

- ☐ U.S. 12.3 million+ cases; 256,597 deaths
  - ◻ https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html (updated 11/20/20)
  - ◻ 11/22/20: **141,034 new cases & 843 deaths**
  - ◻ Past week: average 171,376 cases/day (increase of 54% from average 2 weeks ago)
  - ◻ **1.3 million+ deaths worldwide** (58.8 million+ cases)
- ☐ VDH **Weekly Data Summary** (11/20/20):
  - ◻ https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weekly-data-summary
  - ◻ **Weekly Spotlight** – **No** Spotlight topic this week

https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/vermont-dashboard

November 23, 2020

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Situation update

Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex
- Female 50.5%
- Male 48.4%
- Unknown 1.1%
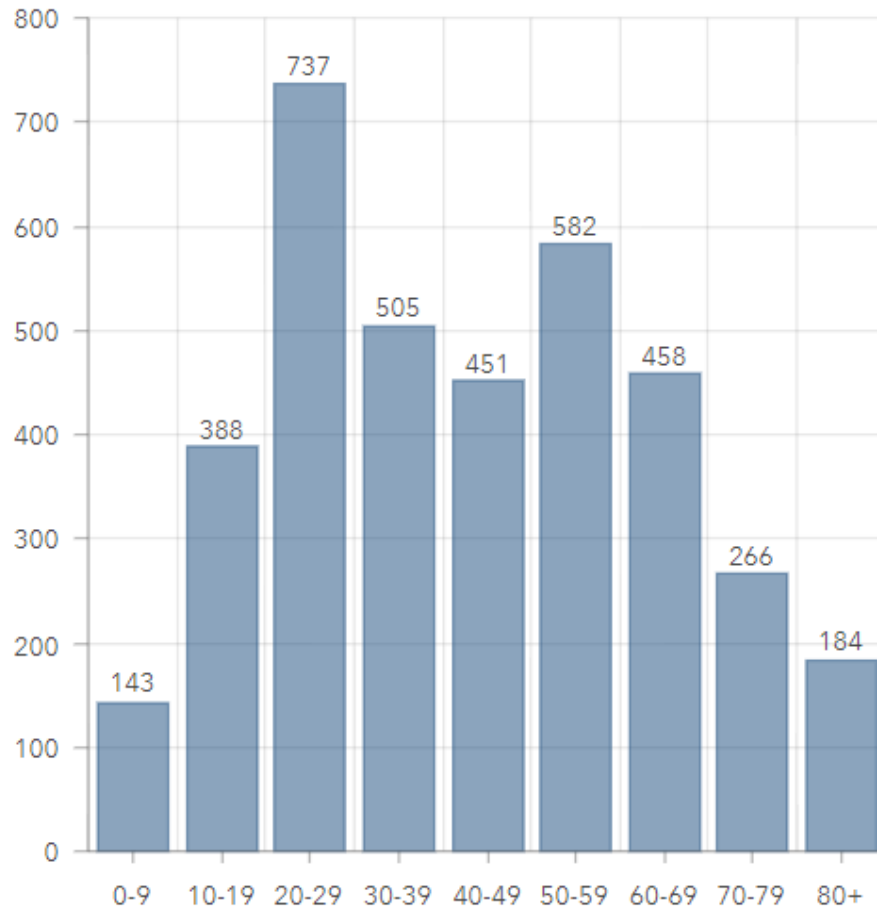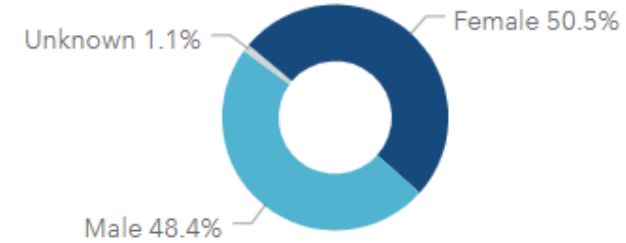
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known
- Hispanic 2.9%
- Not Hispanic 97.1%
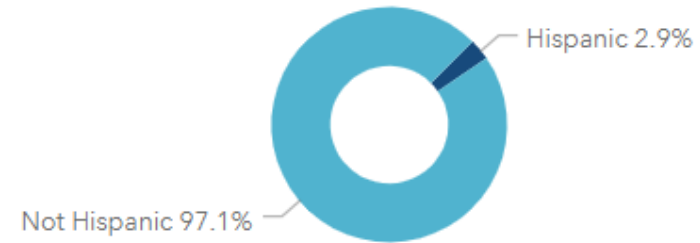
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known
- White 87.6%
- or Alaska Native 0.1%
- Asian 4.1%
- Black or African American 6.4%
- Other Race 1.8%

Case Demographics

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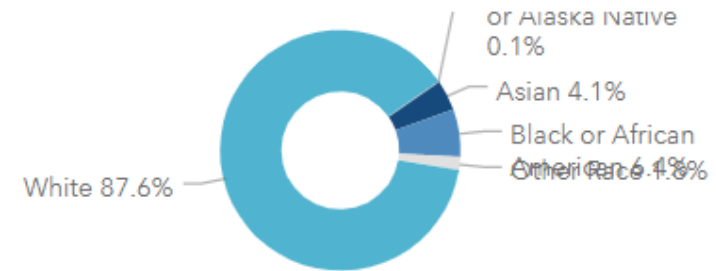
COVID-19 Cases in VT K-12 Learning Communities (While Infectious)

- COVID-19 Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious (dashboard)

  - https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Transmission-Schools.pdf

  - Table updated **Tuesday** w/data through previous Sunday: as posted 11/17/20: **74** total cases; 19 cases reported in preceding 7 days (up from 54 total & 15 previous week)

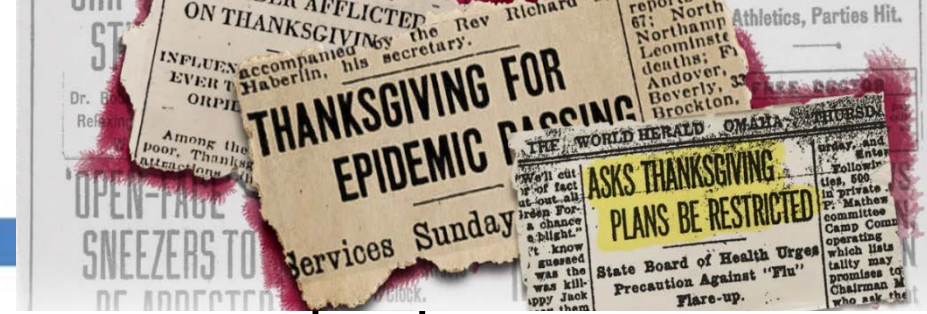**Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious**

Learning Community Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	19	74

Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

Learning Community Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	15	54

- VT College & University dashboards:

  - https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening

  - St. Michael's College: **79 total cases** as of 11/16/20; UVM **71** cumulative total cases (11/15/20)

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In the News

- USA Today: Thanksgiving during the 1918 influenza pandemic
  - https://www.usatoday.com/in-depth/news/nation/2020/11/21/covid-and-thanksgiving-how-we-celebrated-during-1918-flu-pandemic/6264231002/
- NYT: *How Risky are Indoor Sports This Winter?*
  - Mask, safely adapt, avoid shared equipment; consider down sides of opting out but also risks to others (references CDC & AAP guidelines)
  - https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/17/parenting/covid-19-indoor-sports.html
- NYT: *When Will We Throw Our Masks Away? I Asked Dr. Fauci*
  - "…some degree of public health measures w/the vaccine for a considerable period of time. But we'll start approaching normal — if the overwhelming majority of people take the vaccine — as we get into the third or fourth quarter [of 2021].
- Houston Chronicle: polling shows drop in church congregants who support government shutdown orders

VCHIP-CHAMP Email Update

☐ Alerted by a regular call participant that post-call emails were not received last week (unclear if related to cyber attack)

☐ Inquiry to LCOM Information Systems (COMIS): system automatically blocked outgoing emails from our VCHIP-CHAMP address b/c it detected large percentage of messages marked as spam by many recipients originating from our mailbox

☐ Block now removed: please consider checking your spam folders if not receiving emails in inbox [NOTE: VCHIP did not receive message from LCOM indicating messages not delivered.]

  ◘ *Thank you, Avery Rasmussen!*

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Three from the CDC https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/index.html

- **COVID-19 Outbreak Associated with a 10-Day Motorcycle Rally in a Neighboring State — Minnesota, August–September 2020** (Early Release 11/20/20)
  - F/U 10-day motorcycle rally SD: ~460K attendees; <u>**51**</u> confirmed 1° event-assoc. cases; <u>**21**</u> 2° cases; <u>**5**</u> 3° cases in MN residents (addtl. 9 likely assoc. 2° or 3° cases); 4 hosps.; 1 death (supported by genomic sequencing).
  - "These findings demonstrate rationale for consistent mitigation measures across states."

- **Trends in County-Level COVID-19 Incidence in Counties With and Without a Mask Mandate — Kansas, June 1–August 23, 2020** (Early Release 11/20/20)
  - After Gov EO, COVID-19 decreased in 24 cos. with/cont'd. to increase in 81 cos. w/o; mandates appear to have contributed to the mitigation of COVID-19 transmission in mandated counties.

- **Implementation of a Pooled Surveillance Testing Program for Asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infections on a College Campus — Duke U, Aug. 2–Oct. 11, 2020**
  - Frequent PCR pooled testing: 10,265 students tested 68,913 times, 84 had positive results (one-half asympto.; some w/high viral loads). Pooled testing reduced need for resources; allowed high throughput with high sensitivity and rapid turnaround of results.

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This just in, <u>following our call</u>:

- **ACIP's Ethical Principles for Allocating Initial Supplies of COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, 2020**
  - While U.S. supply of COVID-19 vaccines is limited, ACIP will make vaccine allocation recommendations.
  - Based upon scientific data, implementation feasibility, & **four ethical principles:** 1) maximizing benefits and minimizing harms; 2) promoting justice; 3) mitigating health inequities; and 4) promoting transparency.
  - Ethical principles will aid ACIP in making these recommendations and state, tribal, local, and territorial public health authorities in developing **vaccine implementation strategies** based on recommendations.

AAP Updates

- Updated MIS-C Interim Guidance (11/17/20)
  - https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/multisystem-inflammatory-syndrome-in-children-mis-c-interim-guidance/
- AAP Equity Agenda Year One Work Plan posted
  - https://services.aap.org/en/about-the-aap/aap-equity-agenda/
- In the queue:
  - Obesity Management and Treatment *(New)*
  - Supporting Healthy Nutrition and Physical Activity *(New)*
  - Minor revisions to breastfeeding, newborn care, testing, PPE, return to sports

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Updates: Vaccines and Therapeutics

- FDA EUA for Regeneron's monoclonal Ab product: **casirivimab & imdevimab**
  - Administered together (IV) for mild-mod. COVID-19 in adults/pediatric pts. ($\geq$12 yo & wt. $\geq$ 40kg) "at high risk for progressing to severe COVID-19."
  - **<u>Not</u>** for hospitalized patients or those on oxygen
  - Continuing evaluation of safety & effectiveness; allocation under discussion.

- Pfizer applied to FDA for EUA for COVID-19 vaccine (11/20/20); VRPBAC meets December 10, 2020

- **Oxford – Astra Zeneca COVID-19 vaccine** *(being tested at UVM LCOM Vaccine Testing Center):*
  - Average efficacy **70%** from 2 different dosing schedules (U.K. & Brazil): 90% efficacy when given as a half dose followed by a full dose at least a month later; 62% efficacy when 2 full doses given at least a month apart.
  - Can use std. refrigeration for transport, storage; cheaper at <$3/dose. May be distributed in US, UK, Europe – "40% product will be avail. to low/middle income countries" (per the co.).

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UVM Medical Center/Health Network Update

- ❑ Epic went live last evening w/multiple functions; others will continue be repaired/go-live in order of priority
  - ❑ Many functions/information comes from 3rd-party applications
- ❑ All UVM CH subspecialists open, caring for patients, taking new referrals.
  - ❑ Referrals may be made either by paper or in electronic system: as of 0930 today, scheduling system up & running!
  - ❑ If patient appointment was canceled, they will be contacted to reschedule (likely due to inability to obtain images or labs.
- ❑ If any issues, please feel free to contact Jason Revoir: jason.revoir@uvmhealth.org

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COVID-19 Vaccine Resources

- New York Times COVID Vaccine Tracker:
    - https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/science/coronavirus-vaccine-tracker.html
- CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Resources page:
    - https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/vaccination-resources.html
    - Operational guidance: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/covid19-vaccination-guidance.html
- VDH Executive Summary:
    - https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/downloads/vermont-jurisdiction-executive-summary.pdf

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Practice Issues

Testing and School Updates

(https://vtdigger.org/2020/11/22/if-students-go-to-a-party-can-they-then-go-to-school-state-mulls-a-policy-decision/ ; photo by Glenn Russell)

VDH Update: Testing

- VDH Testing Information for Health Care Professionals
  - https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/health-care-professionals/testing-information-health-care-professionals
- VDH COVID-19 Testing Plan (July 27, 2020)
  - https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID-19-Testing-Plan.pdf
  - Anticipate possible new HAN this week
- VDH continues to conduct "Pop-Up" testing sites
- Testing through CIC partnership (tests sent to Broad at MIT) expanding rapidly (see next 2 slides)

VDH Update: Testing

NOTE: on-demand (CIC) testing events are indicated with "OD". All other events are Pop-Ups.

Date	Site
11/23/2020	Barre
	Bennington
	Burlington
	Middlebury
	OD - Bennington Rescue Squad Mornings
	OD - Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Evenings
	OD - Burlington District Office Evenings
	OD - Carlos Otis Stratton Mountain Clinic Mornings
	OD - CIC Health in Middlebury Midday
	OD - North Country Hospital
	OD - Northern Counties Health Care, Inc. Mornings
	OD - Northfield Ambulance Service Mornings
	OD - Rutland Regional Medical Center Evenings
	OD - Upper Valley Ambulance Mornings
	OD - Waterbury Ambulance Service Mornings
	Springfield
	White River Junction
	Winooski

Date	Site
11/24/2020	Barre
	OD - Bennington Rescue Squad Mornings
	OD - Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Evenings
	OD - Burlington District Office Evenings
	OD - Carlos Otis Stratton Mountain Clinic Evenings
	OD - CIC Health in Barre
	OD - North Country Hospital
	OD - Northern Counties Health Care, Inc. Evenings
	OD - Northfield Ambulance Service Evenings
	OD - Rutland Regional Medical Center Evenings
	OD - Upper Valley Ambulance Mornings
	OD - Waterbury Ambulance Service Mornings

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VDH Update: Testing (cont'd.)

NOTE: on-demand (CIC) testing events are indicated with "OD". All other events are Pop-Ups.

Date	Location
11/25/2020	Barre
	Brattleboro
	Morrisville
	Rutland
	St. Albans
	St. Johnsbury
	Williston
11/26/2020	OD - Carlos Otis Stratton Mountain Clinic Evenings
	OD - CIC Health in Barre
	OD - CIC Health in Middlebury Evenings
	OD - Northfield Ambulance Service Evenings
	OD - Upper Valley Ambulance Mornings
	OD - Waterbury Ambulance Service Mornings

Date	Location
11/27/2020	Barre
	OD - Bennington Rescue Squad Mornings
	OD - Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Evenings
	OD - Burlington District Office Evenings
	OD - Carlos Otis Stratton Mountain Clinic Mornings
	OD - CIC Health in Middlebury Midday
	OD - North Country Hospital
	OD - Northern Counties Health Care, Inc. Mornings
	OD - Northfield Ambulance Service Mornings
	OD - Rutland Regional Medical Center Evenings
	OD - Upper Valley Ambulance Evenings
	OD - Waterbury Ambulance Service Mornings
11/28/2020	Barre
11/30/2020	Winooski
12/1/2020	Springfield
12/2/2020	Williston
12/3/2020	White River Junction

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School Updates (VDH/AOE)

- What we're hearing: *should students be excluded students if they describe gathering or travel?*
  - https://vtdigger.org/2020/11/22/if-students-go-to-a-party-can-they-then-go-to-school-state-mulls-a-policy-decision/

- Surveillance testing of teachers:
  - Approaching 10K tested with ~0.2% positivity rate (some IT issues)
  - NOTE distinction between teacher <u>surveillance</u> testing and VT population testing
  - Teacher results *may* indicate good compliance with guidance

School Updates (VDH/AOE)

- VDH following 5-7 situations per day; still minimal in-school transmission.

- Some schools choosing to go remote for a few new reasons:
  - Food services (if positive case and many close contacts, may feel unable to conduct in-person). VDH (local health) working to support food services to stay open
  - Some schools going remote because they have so many families who won't mask and think the virus is a hoax – leaders concerned about keeping schools safe (? Role for local pediatricians to discuss?)
  - Staff shortages due to need for some teachers/staff to quarantine – NOT as school close contacts but as community close contacts

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BCBS VT Connectivity Care Packages Pilot Program

- Coordinated by VPQHC (50+ organizations participating)

- Support equitable access to telehealth services, esp. for those who are digitally & medically underserved.

- 20 iPads to distribute to BCBSVT members by mid-December
  - Must have access to service connect
  - iPad may be kept; may add other apps.

- To refer, email Julie Zack (Director, Integrated Health): zackj@bcbsvt.com

- *Thank you, Erica Gibson, MD*

Updates from VDH Immunization Program (cont'd.)

COVID-19 Vaccine:

☐ **What are your concerns?**

☐ **What are you hearing about COVID-19 vaccine?**

CHAMP Learning Session (10/13/20) Materials Now Posted!

- ***Thank you, Avery Rasmussen and Angela Zinno!***

- Learning session website with recordings and slide decks: http://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/champ/champ_2020_learning_session

- Link directly to Dr. Berwick's keynote recording: https://uvm-vchip.adobeconnect.com/champ2020learningsessionmoraldeterminantsofhealth/event/registration.html

- Link directly to Dr. Berwick's keynote slide deck (NOTE – this will be removed from the website 30 days from the date posted): http://contentmanager.med.uvm.edu/docs/keynote_berwick/vchip-documents/keynote_berwick.pdf?sfvrsn=5b9b1922_2

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VDH Update: Opening for State School Nurse Consultant

Announcing with mixed feelings . . .

☐ Position currently held by Sharonlee Trefry, MSN RN NCSN (MCH/VDH)

☐ **Nurse Program Coordinator I: State School Nurse Consultant**

☐ Link to the job posting: https://careers.vermont.gov/job/Burlington-Nurse-Program-Coordinator-I-Limited-Service-State-School-Nurse-Consultant-VT-05401/691168800/

☐ Support Vermont's School Nursing community of practice; provide nursing leadership to ensure effective school health services within the state; act as liaison to Vermont's School Nurse (SN) community; develop/promote quality standards for school health services programs.

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Questions/Discussion

- Q & A Goal: monitor/respond in real time; record/disseminate/revisit later as needed.

- **For additional questions, please e-mail:** vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu

  - **What do _you_ need** – how can we be helpful (specific guidance)?

- **VCHIP CHAMP VDH COVID-19 website:**
  https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_covid-19_updates

- Next CHAMP call: *Wednesday, November 25, 12:15-12:45* (**current schedule: M-W-F**)

  - **This Week: Monday and Wednesday only – no call Friday, November 27.**

- Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:

  Thursday, December 3, 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#

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