#### 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 9, 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 *p* icon or press Enter to send.

Chat (Everyone)	≣*
Everyone	



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# Celebrating our Democracy & election of the 1<sup>st</sup> woman & woman of color to office of VP of the U.S.



- Also National Chaos Never Dies Day: instead of getting hassled by it, take a deep breath and let go of things that create chaos in your life on this day.
- Reminder: weekly event schedule
  - VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with Comm. Levine Thursday
- □ Situation, VDH, AAP, UVM CH/MC/HN updates
- Practice Issues: Vaccine News, COVID-19 in VT Schools

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



November 9, 2020



https://www.jackson-pollock.org/

# Today's Moment of Pure Joy

#### Milo\* at child care today:

"All the animals are gathering to watch President Dalmatian's speech. And this is his Vice-President, Miss Leopard."

\*Unfazed by his mask...









# Situation update



New Cases: 3 Recent Cases 14 days: 20

Grand Isle County New Cases: 0 Recent Cases 14 days: 3

Chittenden County New Cases: 15 Recent Cases 14 days: 137

Windsor County New Cases: 3 Recent Cases 14 days: 17

Windham County New Cases: 3 Recent Cases 14 days: 15

Bennington County New Cases: 1 Recent Cases 14 days: 11

Franklin County New Cases: 2 Recent Cases 14 days: 10

Essex County New Cases: 0 Recent Cases 14 days: 9

Lamoille County New Cases: 0 Recent Cases 14 days: 1

Caledonia County New Cases: 1 Recent Cases 14 days: 12

- Election Day +6 (we think we're done...)
- $\Box$  U.S. 10 million+ cases; 238,031 deaths
  - https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html (updated 11/6/20)
  - 11/8/20: 103,657 new cases & 464 deaths
  - Past week: average 111,175 cases/day (increase of 59% from average 2 weeks ago)
  - 1.2 million+ deaths worldwide
- VDH Weekly Data Summary (11/6/20):
  - https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weeklydata-summary
  - **Weekly Spotlight** Cases Among People with Neurological Conditions and Intellectual Disabilities

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



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# Situation update



#### VDH Update: Website Changes

- New "menu": Current Activity; Protect Yourself and Others; Testing; Symptoms and Sickness; Travel and Quarantine; Healthcare Professionals; Vaccine; Your Community; FAQs; Resources
  - https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19
- □ VDH has created "program-level pages" for:
  - Families with Children
  - K-12 Schools
  - Child Care Programs
  - Colleges and Universities



#### **COVID-19 PAGES HAVE CHANGED**

Check out the new menu item on this page! Find even more information about COVID-19 in Vermont.

Read More 🕥





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### VDH Update: Flu Surveillance

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

#### Weekly Flu Surveillance Report

#### 2020/2021 Flu Season

#### Timeframe: 10/25/2020 - 10/31/2020

- Geographic spread remains as no activity; no positive flu PCR results or outbreaks were reported.
- So far, the Department of Health has distributed over 103,000 doses of flu vaccine to health care providers enrolled in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) and Vaccines for Adults (VFA) programs compared to approximately 70,000 doses in previous years.
- The COVID-19 pandemic may influence influenza surveillance through changes to health seeking behaviors, influenza testing capacity, implemented hygiene and physical distancing measures, and staffing/routines in sentinel sites. Current



influenza surveillance data should be interpreted with consideration of these factors. Follow these links for up-to-date <u>Vermont</u> and <u>national</u> COVID-19 data.

#### https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/2020-2021\_Flu\_WeeklyReport\_Week44\_0.pdf





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#### (Revised) COVID-19 PCR Testing Guidance: PCPs for Adult Patients









# VDH Update: This Just In . . .

- VDH News Release: Strengthening messaging re: increasing cases and mitigation strategies Vermonters Urged to Take Action to Prevent Spread of COVID-19 as Case Numbers Increase (in context of 43 new cases reported 11/8/20; largest 1-day increase since spring\_
- Officials urging adherence to current health guidance & recommend testing for those who have attended events with households outside their usual social circle
- VDH investigating more outbreaks/situations than at any time since pandemic started
- New cases both associated w/current outbreaks & scattered in various communities. Many cases/clusters/outbreaks trace back to social gatherings (w/o full masking/physical distancing)





# VDH News Release: This Just In . . . (cont'd.)

- Gov. Scott (see Tweet today) & VDH Commissioner Mark Levine call on VTers to strictly observe health guidance (to help keep VT's economy & schools open):
  - Avoid unnecessary travel, including for the upcoming holidays; limit the size of gatherings.
  - Limit private social gatherings to < 10 people, & w/very limited # of trusted households (ALL types of private gatherings, including getting together with friends socially at home, on campus or around town).
- "If you have attended an event with people who are not in your usual social circle, please avoid close contact with others and consider obtaining a test now as well as 7 days after the event or gathering."
- To see options for testing near you, please go to <u>heAlsoalthvermont.gov/covid-</u> <u>19/testing</u>. Call your health care provider if at any point you develop any symptoms.
- SEE: <u>healthvermont.gov/covid-19/protect-yourself-others</u>





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### **AAP Updates**

□ AAP COVID-19 Town Hall series (every other Thursday evening)

- https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19infections/connecting-with-the-experts/
- (Thursday, 11/5/20): Supporting the Emotional & Behavioral Health of Children, Adolescents, and Families during the COVID-19 Pandemic
  - https://players.brightcove.net/6056665225001/default\_default/index.html?videold =6207704908001
  - Interim Guidance on Supporting the Emotional & Behavioral Health Needs of Children, Adolescents, and Families During the COVID-19 Pandemic
  - https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19infections/clinical-guidance/interim-guidance-on-supporting-the-emotional-andbehavioral-health-needs-of-children-adolescents-and-families-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/





### In the News

- FDA Authorizes First Serology Test To Screen For Coronavirus Antibodies (11/6/20) – caution to "not interpret positive test resulst to mean pts. protected."
- □ NYT (11/8/20): COVID Infections in Animals Prompt Scientific Concern
  - Dogs, cats, tigers, hamsters, monkeys, ferrets, & gen. engineered mice also infected.
    <u>https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/08/science/Covid-virus-transmission-mink.html</u>
- NYT: New Studies Raise Questions About Whether Cytokine Storms Are Responsible For The Deaths Of Patients With COVID-19: two studies in JAMA Internal Medicine and one in NEJM questioned whether some pts. with COVID-19 die from cytokine storms (specifically IL-6).
  - Theory: overreactive immune response eliminated virus but but also fatally damaged tissues and organs. BUT: recent studies suggest IL-6 levels not elevated in patients w/COVID-19; drugs (e.g. tocilizumab) aimed at blocking IL-6 not effective in treating







#### UVM Children's Hospital, UVM MC/Health Network Update

From Lewis First, MD, Professor and Chair, Dept. of Pediatrics LCOM; Chief of Pediatrics, UVM Children's Hospital

- Multiple systems continue to be unavailable affecting many areas across the Health Network.
- Ambulatory: Itd. access to pt. data please cont. to advise pts. to bring med list & AVS or D/C summary.
- Lab: all testing needed for dx & med. mgt. accepted; please do not order routine screening (& unnec. daily inpt. tests)
  - **Paper requisitions only** w/provider name, location, phone/fax. **OPD results faxed**.
  - Ltd. UVM Phlebotomy: Main Campus ACC only
  - COVID tests: pos. to ordering prov. by phone; neg faxed; if urgent, call Lab Customer Service: 802-847-5121.





#### UVM Children's Hospital, UVM MC/Health Network Update

From Lewis First, MD, Professor and Chair, Dept. of Pediatrics LCOM; Chief of Pediatrics, UVM Children's Hospital

- Signif. delays processing/reporting Anat. Path. specimens; temporary arrangements for process/results.
- □ Sleep studies cancelled
- Open for emergency care (incl. regional trauma), emergency surgery on case-by-case basis.
- □ Impact on jobs
- General phone number if patients having trouble getting through to doctor's office: 802-847-8888.





# **Practice Issues**

### Vaccine News; COVID-19 in Vermont Schools







November 9, 2020

#### Vaccine News

#### From the NYT (Nov. 9, 2020):

#### □ Pfizer's Early Data Shows Vaccine Is More Than 90% Effective –

- Announced positive early results from its vaccine trial, cementing the lead in a frenzied global race that has unfolded at record-breaking speed."
- https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/09/health/covid-vaccine-pfizer.html
- Early analysis of coronavirus vaccine trial suggested it's robustly effective in preventing Covid-19.
  - Vaccine developed w/(German) BioNTech; released sparse details from clinical trial, based on 1<sup>st</sup> formal data review by outside panel of experts.
  - "Vaccine more than 90 percent effective in preventing the disease among trial volunteers who had no evidence of prior coronavirus infection. No serious safety concerns have been observed, the company said.





#### From the NYT (Nov. 9, 2020):

#### □ *Pfizer's Early Data Shows Vaccine Is More Than 90% Effective* (cont'd.)

- Pfizer plans to ask FDA for EUA of 2-dose vaccine later this month (after collecting recommended 2 mos. of safety data). Expects to have manufactured enough doses for 15-20m. by end calendar year.
- Must still collect long-term safety and efficacy data; unclear duration of protections.
- Pfizer the first company to announce positive results from a late-stage vaccine trial; eleven vaccines in late-stage trials (incl. 4 in U.S.).
  - Moderna vaccine uses similar technology; may early results later this month.
- Pfizer did not take federal money for R & D as part of Operation Warp Speed.





#### COVID-19 in VT Schools

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

Learning Community	Cases Reported In the Past 7	Total Cases	
Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.	Days		
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	11	39	

- Vermont School Based COVID-19 Transmission (dashboard)
  - https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Transmission-Schools.pdf
  - Table now updated Tuesday w/data through previous Sunday; removed "Recovered" category)
  - As posted 11/3/20: 39 total cases; 11 cases reported in preceding 7 days.
- □ VT College & University dashboards:
  - https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening
  - St. Michael's College outbreak: 76 cases as of 11/8/20 (total updated post-call)





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 Office of Governor Phillip B. sc.

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- Dr. Rebecca Bell (follow up to July appearance)
- 2 months since school reopening
- Pediatric patients tell us in-person days provide structure/routine
- □ Parents relieved, grateful; "teachers are really showing up for kids."
- Schools are not a main driver transmission
- Pediatricians imploring Vermonters to adhere to health guidelines.
- COVID-19 does not affect all equally –make decisions through equity lens. Example: holiday travel/gatherings require resources not available to all but consequences impact others.





# Friday Media Briefing (11/6/20 – cont'd.)

#### AOE Secretary Dan French

- □ Schools continue to operate safely in Vermont.
- □ As of Nov. 1: 11 cases in past 7d.; 39 total since September.
- □ Some schools on NH border struggling cooperation across state lines.
- Has been asked whether to change schedules (e.g., build in quarantine periods) out of concern for potential impact of holiday travel – but remains committed to providing in-person instruction.
- □ Holiday Travel Toolkit for schools applicable for all Vermonters.
- □ Strongly advising all to **not travel** this Thanksgiving.
- Watch the Travel Map; have a "COVID talk" e.g., is trip/gathering worth the risk? Assure common understanding of rules; get a flu shot.





# **COVID-19 in Vermont Schools**

- Several cases in schools this week; increasing since 11/6/2. May have up to 3-4 schools impacted/day; contact tracing extensive. E.g., (not exhaustive):
  - Grand Isle Elementary: one case; 2 classes switched to remote "out of an abundance of caution."
  - Essex-Westford: 3 people pos. (Thos. Flemming & Summit St. school)s; not exposed to virus at school. Both schools open for in-person learning todady.
- Message for pediatricians: please wait for contact tracers to advise family if student is a close contact; may be tempting to recommend quarantining students/staff "out of abundance of caution" before they are called, we do not recommend this.
- AOE leadership clear message <u>not</u> recommending switching to remote instruction after Thanksgiving.

Ongoing conversations about surveillance testing for teachers this winter
 <u>VERMONT</u>
 <u>VERMONT</u>
 <u>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH</u>

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

#### □ Thank you, Avery Rasmussen and Angela Zinno!

- Learning session website with recordings and slide decks: <u>http://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/champ/champ\_2020\_learning\_session</u>
- Link directly to Dr. Berwick's keynote recording: <u>https://uvm-vchip.adobeconnect.com/champ2020learningsessionmoraldeterminantsofhealth/event/registration.html</u>
- Link directly to Dr. Berwick's keynote slide deck (NOTE this will be removed from the website 30 days from the date posted): <u>http://contentmanager.med.uvm.edu/docs/keynote\_berwick/vchip-</u> <u>documents/keynote\_berwick.pdf?sfvrsn=5b9b1922\_2</u>





### 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: Wednesday, November 11, 12:15-12:45 (current schedule: M-W-F)
- □ Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:

*Thursday, November 12, 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



