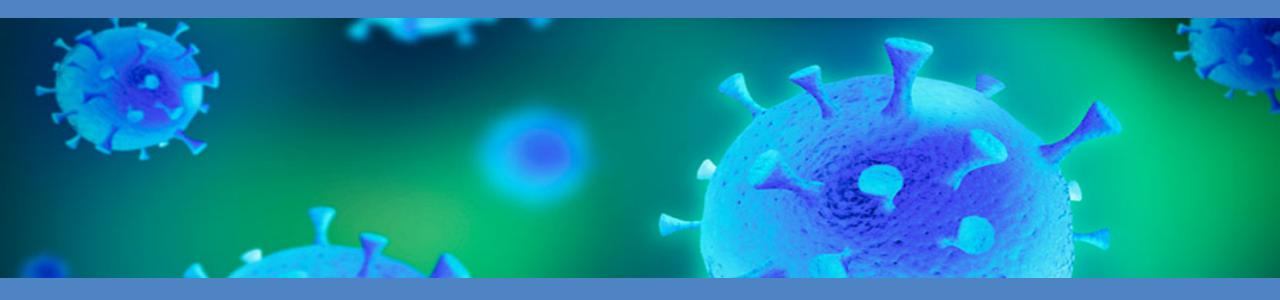
VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH December 18, 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 licon or press Enter to send.





Overview

- International Migrants Day (UN)
 - 2020 theme: Reimagining Human Mobility
 - https://www.un.org/en/observances/migrants-day
- Also National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
- Reminder: weekly event schedule
 - □ VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with Comm. Levine Thursday
 - <u>NEXT</u> week (for 2 weeks ONLY): Mon/Wed only (12/21, 23, 28, 30)
- Situation, VDH, CDC, vaccine updates; media briefing
- Practice Issues: COVID-19 Vaccine, testing
- □ Q & A, Discussion [Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly so the information we're providing today may change quickly]







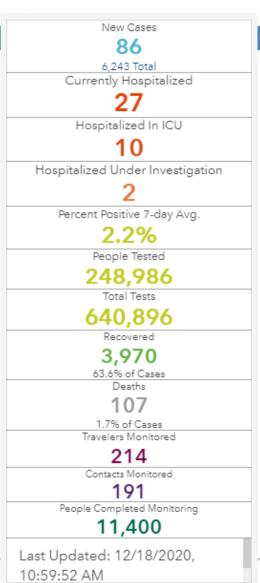
Reminder: Data Dashboard Change (effective 12/2/20)

- Vermont COVID-19 cases now includes probable cases reported to VDH since September 6, 2020.
- Definition:
 - Person tested positive on antigen test and has symptoms of COVID-19 or epidemiologic evidence, OR
 - Person has symptoms of COVID-19 and is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case of COVID-19.

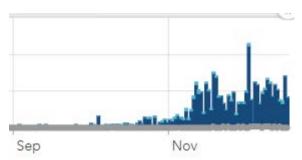




Situation update



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



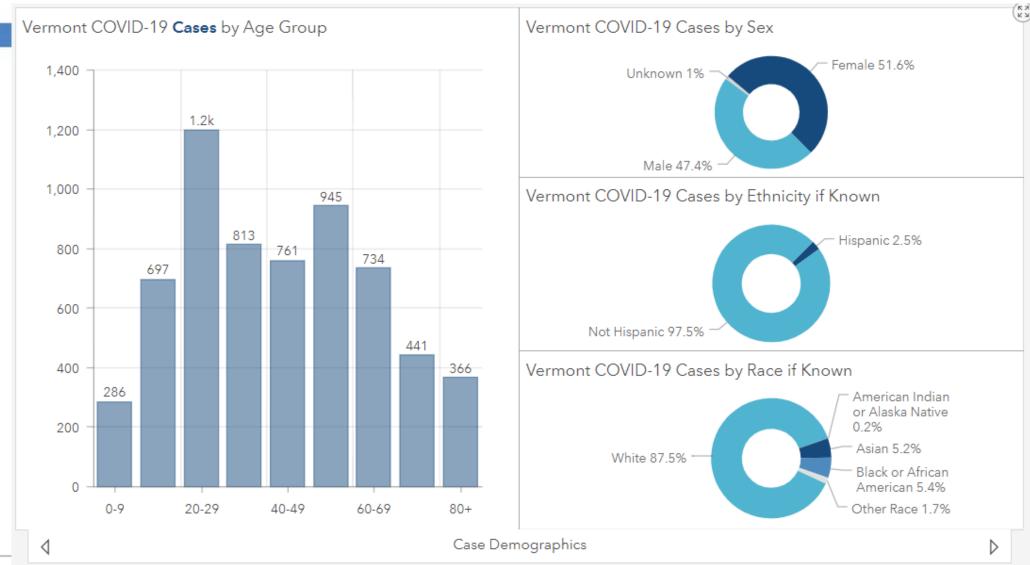
VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

- U.S. 17.2 million+ cases; 310,935 deaths
 - https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirusus-cases.html (updated 12/18/20)
 - 12/17/20: 238,819 new cases; 3,293 d.; 114,237 hosp.
 - Past week: average 213,165 cases/day (increase of 18% from average 2 weeks ago)
 - 1.6 million+ deaths worldwide (75 million+ cases)
- - Weekly Spotlight Topic: Percent Positivity by County
- Find previous summaries at:
 - https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/currentactivity/weekly-data-summary





Situation update







December 18, 2020

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 12/15/20: **195** total cases; 34 cases reported in preceding 7 days (up from 20 reported previous week).

December 13, 2020

December 6, 2020 Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

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	34	195

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	20	158

- VT College & University dashboards:
 - Now on break from on-campus learning: https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening





VDH Updates – Schools

We're hearing that some schools are altering post-holiday schedules – examples:

- Orchard Valley Waldorf School (East Montpelier) will reopen January 6
- At least one school in Rutland w/delayed reopening
- White River Valley Supervisory Union will conduct remote learning January 4 – 8
- St Johnsbury area: 3 schools will stay remote for "several days" after the holiday

What are YOU hearing?





Vaccine News

From Milo (*Early Childhood* beat reporter):

"These are the scientists having a party to celebrate the cawonaviwis baccine...the scientists are spread out and giving each other space."







Vaccine News (cont'd.)

- Surgeon General Jerome Adams, Karen Pence, & VPOTUS
 Mike Pence vaccinated (on live television this morning)
- Moderna vaccine endorsed by FDA VRBAC (12/17/20)
- Expect FDA to issue EUA as soon as today







VDH Update: Testing

- Capacity appears to be meeting needs of Vermonters; open to feedback if providers having trouble with access (please email vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu & breena.holmes@vermont.gov)
- □ Test result turn-around is **2-3 days** & smoother this week. Please advise if pts. experiencing longer delays; occasional "glitches."
- Following up on use of dual rapid tests for influenza & COVID-19 (concerns re: false positive flu in setting of low community transmission) – please stay tuned!





VDH Updates: Testing

Testing capacity:

- ~192 sites (most CIC on-demand; 3 pop-ups) posted 12/18/20 1/17/21
 Same-day testing slots now posted all day.
- NOTE: VDH posted testing sites are intended for asymptomatic pts.;
 prefer symptomatic pts. to seek connection to PCP/medical home.
 provider. However: all sites are prepared to take people who arrive
- Majority = on-demand CIC sites, including:
 - Bennington, Berlin, Brattleboro Mem. Hosp, Burlington, Fairlee, Hardwick, Island Pond, Middlebury, Morrisville, N. Country Hosp, Northfield, Springfield, RRMC, St. J, Stratton, Waitsfield, Waterbury, Williamstown, Williston, Winooski
 - Days of the week/hours vary by site

and are experiencing symptoms.



VDH Updates – Testing

Stories we are following:

- Turnaround times please continue to send feedback to breena.holmes@vermont.gov or CHAMP mailbox
 - We are seeing a variety of issues in your questions/feedback: e.g., variable across different laboratories; courier issues, etc.
- □ Home COVID-19 tests





VDH Updates: Honoring Sharonlee Trefry, MSN, RN, NCSN

- VT State School Nurse Consultant: retiring from state service
- Honored today by Governor Scott & VDH/state colleagues!

monters.

- A key reason for the success of Vermont's COVID 19 response successes has been the front-line work of school nurses and childcare directors. These professionals have been charged with protecting our vulnerable children and youth during a time of pandemic.
- "Sharonlee, as a dedicated nurse, has truly demonstrated what mastery of a profession can look like. It is clear that being a school nurse and a State School Nurse Consultant is not just a job. It's Sharonlee's career & calling, & Vermont is fortunate to have Sharonlee in the right place at the right time during this pandemic to make in difference in the health and safety of our children and youth. We, as Sharonlee's colleagues, salute her tireless efforts knowing her leadership has made a difference for a full generation of young



#ESSAinV1

VDH Update: Quarantine

- The Governor's executive orders do not exempt people who had COVID-19, had a positive antibody test or got the COVID-19 vaccine.
- □ This means that **you must quarantine** when you travel or return to Vermont; you are also **not allowed to gather** with people you don't live with.
- It is not yet known if people who recover from COVID-19 can get infected again. There are no confirmed reports to date of a person being reinfected with COVID-19 within three months of initial infection.
- It is also not yet known if people who get a COVID-19 vaccine can still infect others with the virus.
- Currently, we recommend that everyone continue to follow the prevention steps to keep from getting or spreading COVID-19.





Presentations of Interest

- □ TODAY (12/18, 2-3 pm ET): CDC COCA Call What Clinicians Need to Know About the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines
 - Zoom link: https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2020/callinfo_121820.asp
 - Overview of Pfizer-BioNTech & Moderna vaccines: vaccine characteristics & administration, vaccinating special populations, contraindications & Q & A.
- □ AAP Town Hall (12/17/20) part 2 re: vaccines
- PMI webinar: The Business Impact of COVID-19 on Pediatric
 Practices recording now available





VCHIP-CHAMP Email Update

- LCOM Information Systems (COMIS) removed the (automatic) block due to large percentage of messages marked as spam by many recipients originating from our VCHIP-CHAMP mailbox
- Created a UVM LISTSERV & minimized spam triggers in email content to hopefully resolve the issue. Replies to the LISTSERV will still go to vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu.
- If you do NOT receive tonight's email from the listserv, follow these steps:
 - 1) Check your junk/spam folders
 - Reach out to your IT department or email server support and ask for emails from VCHIPCHAMPVDHCOVID19UPDATES@list.uvm.edu to be **white listed**.
 - 3) Email VCHIP.CHAMP@med.uvm.edu to let us know if steps 1&2 do not resolve the issue.





VDH Update: COVID-19 Vaccine

- While supply limited, vaccines to priority groups: high-risk health care workers and residents of long-term care facilities – will be notified directly about when and where they can get vaccinated
- Anticipate finalizing the next priority group in the coming weeks following recommendations by ACIP & VT Vaccine Implementation Advisory Group
- Next groups likely to involve some combination of people over 65, people under 65 with chronic or immune compromising conditions, and frontline workers (per VDH)
- VDH Commissioner Levine: "For most Vermonters, it will likely be several months before the vaccine is widely available. But when it is available to you, you will know, through our own communications and through our partners the health care providers, pharmacies, and others who will provide the vaccine across the state."



VDH Update: COVID-19 Vaccine

- □ 12/15/20: VT received 2nd shipment of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine
- VDH allocated weekly shipments of 5,850 doses of Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine through December; expect equal number of 2nd dose in coming weeks
- VDH has placed a pre-order for the Moderna vaccine (pending FDA approval); VT could potentially see 11,400 doses next week and 5,000 doses at the end of the month (TOTAL of all vaccines = almost 34,000 doses)
- VDH & SEOC in process of distributing vaccine to hospitals statewide (in coordination w/hospitals' clinic schedule & 120-hr window to use vaccine).





Today's Media Briefing (12/18/20)

Governor Phil Scott

- Flags at half-staff tomorrow to honor 107 Vermonters who have died from COVID-19 (as on the 19th of every month)
- Cases plateauing but continuing to spread among older, more at-risk Vermonters.
- School-based/recreational sports: no changes warranted at this time
- Vaccine: by next Tuesday, vaccinating long-term care facilities (LTCFs) residents/ staff will have begun.





VT ACCD Secretary Lindsay Kurrle

- Latest economic recovery activities.
- Last of federal grant dollars being sent to VT businesses
 - □~300m. to small businesses
- Encouraging Vermonters to shop locally
 - OR go to buyvermontmade.com









AOE Secretary Dan French

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- □ Nov. data re: in-person (IP), remote, hybrid (3rd month)
 - October captured shift to Step 3 almost 50% incr. at elem. level
- November: increased case counts, uncertainty, Thanksgiving
- Data largely unchanged (SEE VT AOE web site; map w/trends)
- □ 14% complete remote, 33% IP, 53% hybrid
- Shows schools successful in switching in response to data
- □ HS; ~10% complete IP, mid 20% IP, just >50% elementary complete IP
- Point in time: modes shift during mo. in response to local conditions.
- □ Week 2 Dec. staff testing (~5K/wk.): participation still ~40%. But # of
 - schools w/>50% participation doubled this week vs. last.



AOE Secretary Dan French

- □ About 6K tests pos. rate ~0.1% much < statewide positivity rate.</p>
- Plan to continue testing in January
- Next phase (Recovery Phase) of K-12 education: January request development of recovery plans.
- Utilize Educational Support Teams (ESTs) at District level
- □ Engage w/partner organizations expect launch ~2/1/21.
- Seeking more opportunities to increase IP instruction
- Holiday period challenging for schools







VDH Commissioner Levine

- New daily cases fluctuate but not consistently increasing
- COVID-tracker web site: "HI & VT are only 2 orange states amidst a broad swath of redness."
- □ LTCF outbreak list: cases in high 300s; many now w/more favorable news
- Other data notes: not all deaths are in nursing homes (~20% at home or in hospital); hospitalizations in 20s; 10 in ICUs but sometimes for reasons related to isolation.
- 42 outbreaks: 17 in health care (HC) settings; non-outbreak situations = 223;
 58 HC-related; 165 non-HC related.
- Many situations occurring due to people in public-facing context while asymptomatic.





VDH Commissioner Levine

- Vermont COVID-19 vaccination effort has begun
- Pharmacy partners scheduled to begin LTCF clinics next week
- Working to finalize next priority groups will likely include people >65 y.o.
 and those w/chronic or immunocompromising conditions.
- Awaiting ACIP recommendations this weekend & VT Vaccine Implementation Advisory Committee meeting today
- Priorities: focus on reduce sickness, death; keep kids in IP instruction in schools & protect work face & businesses.
- WE have pre-ordered Moderna : could have almost 34K total doses Pfizer
 & Moderna by end of December.





Practice Issues

COVID-19 Vaccine Update









What Every Clinician Should Know about COVID-19 Vaccine Safety

Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)
Webinar

Monday, December 14, 2020

NOTE: slides 27 – 33 all reproduced from this CDC COCA Presentation, 12/14/20 https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2020/callinfo_121420.asp

Overview



- HCP with postvaccination signs & sxs could be mistakenly considered infectious & restricted from work unnecessarily.
- Strategies to evaluate/manage post-vaccination signs & symptoms among health care professionals (HCP) needed to avoid
 - Unnecessarily excluding HCP with only post-vaccination signs and symptoms from work
 - Inadvertently allowing HCP with SARS-CoV-2 or another transmissible infection to work
- Strategies are intended for use by occupational health programs and public health officials.
- They apply to all HCP working in healthcare settings.





Considerations to minimize the impact of post-vaccination systemic signs/symptoms on staffing

- Vaccinating HCP preceding 1-2 days off, during which they are not required to be in the facility.
- Staggering delivery of vaccine to HCP in the facility so that not all HCP in a single department, service, or unit are vaccinated at the same time.
- Informing HCP about the potential for short-term systemic signs and symptoms post-vaccination and potential options for mitigating them.
- Developing a strategy to provide timely assessment of HCP with systemic signs and symptoms post-vaccination, including providing or identifying options for SARS-CoV-2 viral testing, so it is readily available if indicated.
- Offering nonpunitive sick leave options (e.g., paid sick leave) for HCP with systemic signs and symptoms post-vaccination to remove barriers to reporting these symptoms.





Suggested approaches to evaluating and managing new-onset systemic post-vaccination signs and symptoms



- Approaches apply to HCP who
 - have received COVID-19 vaccination in the prior 3 days (including day of vaccination, which is considered day 1) and
 - are not known to have had unprotected exposure to SARS-CoV-2 in the previous 14 days.
- Ultimately, clinical judgement should determine the likelihood of infection versus post-vaccination symptoms.





Signs and symptoms unlikely to be from COVID-19 vaccination

- Signs and Symptoms
 - Presence of ANY systemic signs and symptoms consistent with SARS- CoV-2 infection (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, rhinorrhea, sore throat, loss of taste or smell) or another infectious etiology that are not typical for postvaccination signs and symptoms.
- Suggested approach
 - Exclude from work pending evaluation for possible etiologies, including SARS-CoV-2 infection, as appropriate.
 - Criteria for return to work depends on the suspected or confirmed diagnosis.







Signs and symptoms that may be from either COVID-19 vaccination, SARS- CoV-2 infection, or another infection



- Signs and Symptoms
 - Presence of ANY systemic signs and symptoms (e.g., fever, fatigue, headache, chills, myalgia, arthralgia) that are consistent with a postvaccination reaction, SARS-CoV-2 infection, or another infectious etiology.
- Suggested approach
 - HCP who meet the following criteria may be considered for return to work without viral testing for SARS-CoV-2:
 - Feel well enough and are willing to work, and
 - · Are afebrile, and
 - Systemic signs and symptoms are limited only to those observed following vaccination.





Symptomatic HCP (cont'd.)

- Suggested approach
 - If symptomatic HCP return to work and symptoms are not improving or persist for more than 2 days

- TOPOLOGICAL CONTROL AND PREVIOUS OF THE CONTROL AND PREVIO
- Exclude from work, pending evaluation, and consider viral testing
- HCP with fever should, ideally, be excluded from work pending further evaluation, including consideration for SARS-CoV-2 testing.
 - If an infectious etiology is not suspected or confirmed as the source of their fever, they may return to work when they feel well enough.
 - When critical staffing shortages are anticipated or occurring, HCP with fever and systemic signs and symptoms limited only to those observed following vaccination could be considered for work if they feel well enough and are willing.
 - HCP should be re-evaluated, and viral testing for SARS-CoV-2
 considered, if fever does not resolve within 2 days.





Coming Attractions VMS Vaccine Panel & EM Grand Rounds



VMS Panel (presentations, Q & A)

- □ COVID-19 Vaccine: Safety, Distribution & Considerations for Patients
 - □ COVID-19 vaccines Dr. Beth Kirkpatrick
 - Ethics of vaccine prioritization & distribution planning Dr. Tim Lahey
 - Talking to patients re: vaccine considerations in pregnant and lactating women with Dr. William Raszka
 - Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2020 12:00 PM ET register at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7VyHgGqiRkuDdbtCbxl8cQ

- □ DHMC Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds Wed., Jan. 20, 2021 (12-1)
 - Critical Child Abuse Literature: Seminal Articles on Sentinel Injuries
 - Amy Doolan Roy, MD, Med. Director Ped ED, Elliot Hosp. (LCOM grad!)



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 <u>you</u> 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: *Monday, December 21, 12:15-12:45* (current schedule: M-W-F):
- □ Weeks of 12/21 and 12/28 ONLY: calls will be Monday and Wednesday ONLY
- □ Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:

Thursday, January 7, 2021 - 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#



