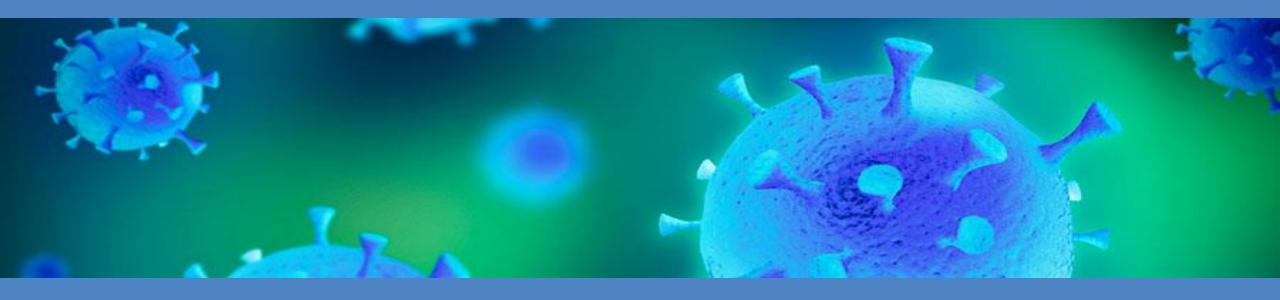
#### VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



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 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 Kwanzaa (12/26/20 1/1/21)
  - https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/21/dining/kwanzaa-celebration.html
- □ (Still) celebrating the *Winter Solstice* 
  - The days are lengthening!
- □ Reminder: weekly event schedule
  - VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; NO VMS call with Comm. Levine this week!
  - □ This/next weeks: Mon/Wed ONLY (12/21, 23, 28, 30) HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!
- Situation, VDH, CDC, vaccine updates; Tues. media briefing
- □ Practice Issues: *Wednesday Potpourri*
- □ Q & A, Discussion [Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly so the information we're providing today may change quickly]



## What to Expect this Week and Next

- Technology: Wendy and Breena are in charge please bear with us!
- We WILL send an email to listserv this evening.
- □ We will **NOT** post call recordings and documents until the week

of January 4, 2021.

- We WILL monitor the CHAMP mailbox.
- Coming Attractions:
  - Monday, 12/28: Dr. Tim Lahey, ethics of vaccine allocation/distribution
  - Wednesday, 12/30: Chris Finley, vaccine update

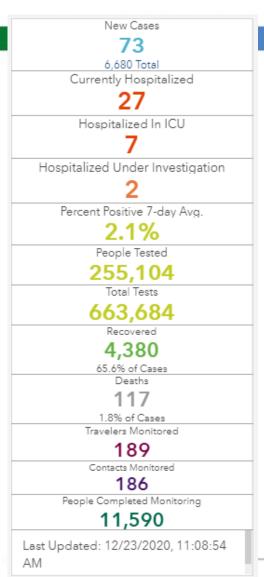




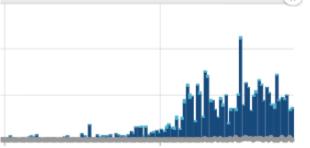
DIFASE

## Situation update

Sep



□ U.S. 18.2 million+ cases; 317,800 deaths



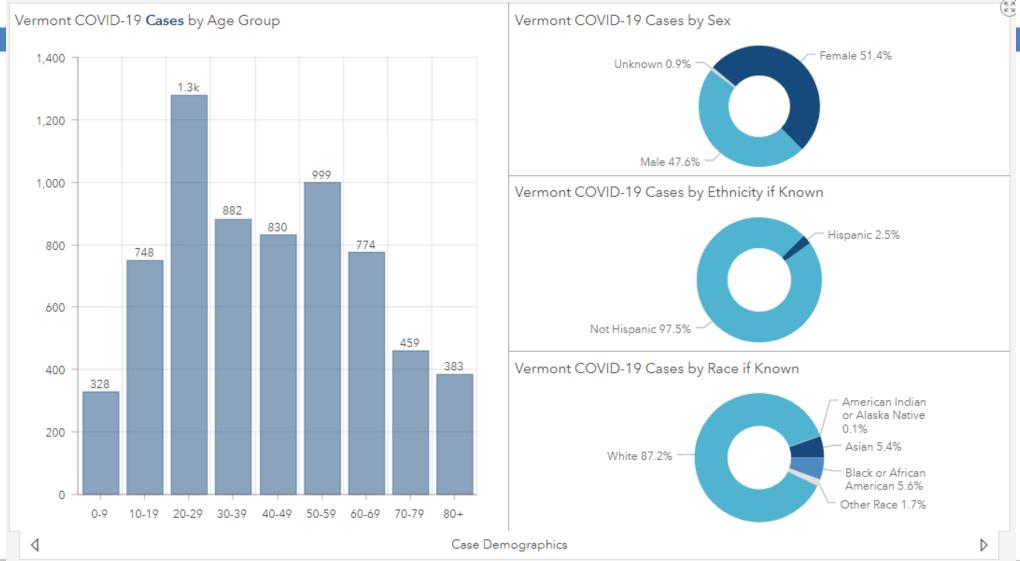
- Nov
- VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

- https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html (updated 12/23/20)
- 12/22/20: **201,674** new cases; **3,239** d.; **117,777** hosp.
- Past week: average 215,974 cases/day (increase of 4% from average 2 weeks ago)
- 1.7 million+ deaths worldwide (78.1 million+ cases)
- VDH Weekly Data Summary(12/18/20)
  - Weekly Spotlight Topic: Percent Positivity by County
- Find previous summaries at:
  - https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/currentactivity/weekly-data-summary





## Situation update







#### 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: <a href="https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening">https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening</a>





## VDH: What to Expect this Week and Next

- VDH teams will continue to work, including: laboratory staff, contact tracing & other critical response teams.
- NO update to VDH COVID-19 dashboard 12/25/20 or 1/1/21; will resume next day
  - □ Cases by town (map) will be published 12/24 & 12/31 (Thurs. vs. Fri.)
- NO Weekly Data Summary 12/25/20
- NO update to COVID-19 Cases in VT K-12 Learning
   Communities While Infectious (next published 1/8/21)





# VDH: What to Expect this Week and Next (cont'd.)

#### Reminders

- □ Testing info: <a href="https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/testing">https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/testing</a>
- All testing sites will be closed December 24, 25 and 31. If you are tested on December 23, you may not get your results before December 29.
- Some laboratories will be closed for Christmas and New Year's, so results may be delayed. During this time expect results within 5 business days.
- Vaccine info:

https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/about-covid-19-vaccines-vermont





#### From the CDC

- MMWR (early release 12/22/20): The ACIP Updated Interim Recommendation for Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 2020
  - Phase 1b, COVID-19 vaccine should be offered to persons aged ≥75 years and non-health care frontline essential workers, and in Phase 1c, to persons aged 65–74 years, persons aged 16–64 years with high-risk medical conditions, and essential workers not included in Phase 1b.
  - https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm695152e2.htm?s\_ cid=mm695152e2\_w





# VDH Child Development Clinic (CDC) Update

- Effective 12/18/20): all referrals for CDC, UVM Hospital's Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Program, and the Autism Assessment Clinic at the Vermont Center for Children, Youth, and Families now occur through a single, central intake process. (*Phone: 802-847-2007; Fax: 802-847-3358*); services that have been provided by CDC will change.
- Reason for change: VDH pandemic response; impacts ability to provide developmental evaluations through CDC across the state and is resulting in long wait times for children already enrolled and on the wait list.
- VDH offices are becoming COVID-19 vaccination & testing sites, limiting ability to resume CDC in those locations – more outreach forthcoming.
- □ For assistance, please contact: Nora.Sabo@vermont.gov (Central Intake); Carol.Hassler@vermont.gov, and Ilisa.Stalberg@vermont.gov.





### Request to Complete Survey (thank you, Michelle Shepard)

- Following up on survey (original 2017) to PCPs re: community resources for opioid-exposed newborns
  - Delayed through spring/summer due to COVID; now some time sensitivity.
  - Distributed to nurse managers, ICON listserv, & VT NP Assoc. Association
  - Current outreach to Pediatric and Family Medicine PCPs
  - SurveyMonkey: short & anonymous.
- □ Please look for email to CHAMP participants thank you!





### UVM HN Update: Vaccine for Community Providers

- □ Goal: safe, efficient & equitable distribution process
  - Following guidelines from CDC, VT & NY state; focusing first on front-line caregivers w/highest risk of exposure.
- UVM MC received 1<sup>st</sup> shipments of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine; partnering w/State of VT to vaccinate community health care workers w/in hospital service area at Champlain Valley Expo (the Fairgrounds) in Essex.
- □ Expect to begin receiving shipments of the Moderna vaccine 12/25/20
- Currently no action needed to schedule HCPs/staff; no sign up or waiting list.
- UVM MC will reach out to employers of state-identified community health care workers/practices to schedule vaccinations





### UVM HN Update: Vaccine for Community Providers (cont'd.)

State of VT guidance re: vaccine priority groups for vaccination (based on constant communication):

- We don't know how much vaccine we'll receive/how often.
- □ VDH prioritization guidance (12/8/20) for 1<sup>st</sup> 3 weeks (<u>percentages are of total number of identified staff</u>, **not** amount of available vaccine):
- □ Week 1: 13% patient-facing hospital staff, 33% of EMS
- □ Week 2: 33% patient-facing hospital staff, 33% EMS, 3.5% Home Health
- Week 3: 24% patient-facing hospital staff, 33% EMS, 10% Home Health, 12% non-hospital HCWs





### UVM HN Update: Vaccine for Community Providers (cont'd.)

- □ 12/18/20: additional guidance re: vaccine priorities (allocation/target %s unk.):
  - HCPs: clinical staff & support staff (food, environmental, administrative services).
  - LTCF residents: prioritize SNFs due to high acuity, COVID-19-associated mortality; vaccination for this group to be done by designated pharmacies.
- □ VT Vaccine Implementation Advisory Committee: "health care personnel" incl.:
  - LTCF staff w/direct patient contact: HCPs/staff (incl. students & support staff), primarily (not exclusively) in EDs, ICUs; EMS personnel w/direct patient contact; home health care clinical staff/caregivers w/contact with multiple pts. or hi-risk for serious illness; any other health care providers and staff who have patient contact.
- VDH recommends first tier should include: HCPs/staff working in primary care, obstetrics and gynecology or dental practices.
  - Please begin prioritizing your practice (currently not enough vaccine for all).

VERM Information and guidance from the state is changing rapidly VCHIP

# UVM MC/HN Cyber Attack Update

- Dr. Doug Gentile (Sr. VP UVM Network IT) briefing 12/22/20 re: ransomware attack responsible for October shutdown.
- Link left in single folder on a network computer to contact the hackers; not opened. Contacting hackers/paying ransom wouldn't have saved time/effort
- Ongoing FBI investigation
- Responsible parties not identified (incl. whether associated with foreign groups), nor how they entered system
- Remaining applications will be restored by early January, he said.





# VT Vaccine Implementation Advisory Committee

#### Meeting today!

overlap.

- Vaccine rollout per Chris Finley, "bumpy" (but understandably!)
- Hospitals have rec'd. vaccine; SNFs holding clinics (only 13/64 vaccine jurisdictions began this early); data system didn't work; VDH getting data)
  - Working on (public) dashboard anticipated today.
- VAHHS communicating, advocating; press release
  - HCPs asked to <u>not</u> reach out to hospitals right now (goal by Jan. 11)
- (Dr. Tim Lahey, Committee member) re: vaccine allocation that "seems out of order" groups being prioritized properly, but exceptions can occur. "Don't sweat the details" doesn't mean entire process unfair.
- Per Dr. Chen: happening fast; large data files, etc. Different phases will



# In Case You Missed It/Coming Attraction



- □ VMS Panel (12/22/20): COVID-19 Vaccine
  - 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
  - https://vtmd.org/covid-19-vaccine-information
- UVM MC OB Grand Rounds (12/22/20): Marjorie Meyer, MD (Director MFM) –
   COVID Vaccine in Prepregnancy, Pregnancy, and Lactation
  - Access recording (Passcode 3E8D8i?v)
  - https://uvmcom.zoom.us/rec/share/Cfi5eXyXgMmHw6W9ypCe6Fk1CZBHHPTPZC0EMg FTrym12gmPtEyKG7o8ERe9vAu3.CsIZVayUvoV343D-
- □ DHMC Emergency Medicine Grand Rounds Wed., Jan. 20, 2021 (12-1)
  - Critical Child Abuse Literature: Seminal Articles on Sentinel Injuries
  - MANNO Doolan Roy, MD, Med. Director Red ED, Elliot Hosp. (LCOM grad!)



## 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.





# Tuesday Media Briefing (12/22/20)

#### Governor Phil Scott

- □ Decline in case growth over past week: "stabilized" at <100 X days</p>
- Based on data, making small, short-term changes to gathering policy:
   may gather w/one other trusted household(HH) from 12/23/20-1/2/21.
- □ Will then break to collect data "we'll see from there."
- □ Means ONLY ONE trusted HH NOT w/>1, even if on different days.
  - Consider whether it fits your family, esp. if includes >65 yo, those w/pre-existing conditions, work w/vulnerable populations (eg in HC).
  - Strongly encourage all to get test 7d. It's free: register at healthvermont.gov.
- If the ONE other HH is from outside VT, ALL must quarantine & test at 7d., OR quarantine for 14d.





#### Governor Phil Scott

- Outdoor recreation update: may participate w/others if physically distance & masked.
- □ "Arrive/play/leave" approach no mingling. Hockey outbreak example
- SEE 4.1 of ACCD worksafe guidance.
- Phased restart youth recreational/school sports. Effective 12/26/20: may practice individual skills, strength & cond. *No contact*; must be distanced & masked all times. Schools may wait until they reopen.
- Does not include adult rec sports; spectators are prohibited
- All bar, restaurant restrictions remain in place.





# Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- Vermont has 8 of top 10 cos. of the 521 in our travel region (by active cases/million)
- VT total cases crossed 6K this week.
- Projection: cases will rise over next 4 weeks but expect significant reduction rate of rise.
- Chittenden & Bennington Counties stand out for # active cases & pos.
   rate X past few wks.; if remove those cases, total VT #s down.
- Cautionary note based on review of last year's travel trends: ski & Christmas seasons saw more visitors to VT than any other time in previous year.





#### Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- Valley Vista outbreak closed by 3 new.
- □ LTCF acct. for only ~6% of total cases, but residents comprise >70% of deaths. Impt. to vaccinate this population.
- □ Just <500 regional cases in K-12; ME = 288; NH = 162; VT = 37</p>
- Flu: challenge = successfully manage flu and COVID-19; need to keep flu down so hospital capacity adequate for COVID.
- Southern hemisphere flu season: Argentina, Australia "virtually nonexistent this yr. 10 wks. into US flu season, hosp visits down vs. previous seasons.

VI fly vaccine: now at 80% goal & 11% ahead of this time last yr December 23, 2020

#### **VDH Commissioner Levine**

- "Off-script": majority of VT populatoin won't get COVID vaccine for months, so PLEASE get flu vaccine now!
- 293 situations; 41 outbreaks (19 latter in healthcare settings; 11 in LTCFs).
- □ Vaccine: by end today: 11,400 doses Moderna. Also 3900 more Pfizer
- □ 18,725 doses total by week's end; well on way to 34K expected Dec.
- 12/21/20: first day of contracted pharmacies vaccinating nursing home residents.
- Hospitals mobilizing to vaccinate HC workforce; others (primary care, dental, EMS, others).





#### **VDH Commissioner Levine**

- Discussed Moderna & mRNA vaccines in general
- □ Pt. may test pos. on Ab test after vax, but not on nasal swab test.
- □ These 1<sup>st</sup> two vaccines were NOT rushed into production; held to usual rigorous safety standards.
- □ Even those who had/think they had COVID-19 should get vaccine
- New (mutated) strain in UK, S Africa: genetically distinct many scientists belive more contagious, more infectious in children. But doesn't seem to cause more disease; studying vaccine efficacy but no reason to think vaccine won't be effective against this strain





#### Commissioner Levine

- Last week, tests from Barre & Milton school testing did not arrive Broad in time due to shipping delays (self-collected & shipped directly via UPS).
- Milton staff will be retested today; Barre to be retested after break.
- Safest thing is still to celebrate the holidays at home w/people you live with. If you DO choose to gather; maintain distance (6 ft. even indoors), wear masks, avoid eating/drinking. Data implic sharing meals w/o masks increase case. Plan to get tested.
- Travel/quarantine policy has **not** changed. Don't rec any gatherings for >65 yo, w/those w/underlying medical cond., work w/hi-risk pops.





# Practice Issues

### (Holiday) Wednesday Potpourri







### Instructive Clinical Scenario (thank you, Susan Sykas, DNP)

- If a parent recuperates from COVID & then is exposed to another family/ significant other who tests positive, can the recovered person work if no sxs? What if they have a new sore throat?
- □ (Bill Raszka): If asymptomatic and w/in 3 months of diagnosis, the person does not need to quarantine what to do w/symptomatic people within 3 months of infection is less clear. Guidance suggests consider testing if s/s consistent with COVID but can open can of worms (some pts. can be PCR+ for very long time). My bias is that the risk of re-infection within 3 months of diagnosis is awfully, awfully, awfully small (based on our information as of 12/22 not sure if the events in the UK will change that) and would not quarantine.





### Instructive Clinical Scenario (thank you, Susan Sykas, DNP)

- (Ben Lee): Depends upon how long since parent had COVID & if any other cause for sxs. If asymptomatic & w/in 3 mos. of illness, do **not** need to quarantine/retest.
- If new sxs that could be c/w COVID & no other cause, may need to retest. "As a genl. principle, I would do anything possible to avoid re-testing pt. shortly after known infection, since PCR tests can stay positive long after infectiousness stops."
- If they have new symptoms, would focus work-up on other causes & if ill enough to require this, they probably shouldn't be back at work anyway, as other infections besides COVID can still be spread in the workplace!
  - □ CDC: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html
- From Susan Sykas: "This mom just has sore throat, and it is within a month, but wanted to return to work! Hence the question. Interestingly, the child in the home has remained COVID negative!!"





#### 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 28, 12:15-12:45 HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
- 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#



