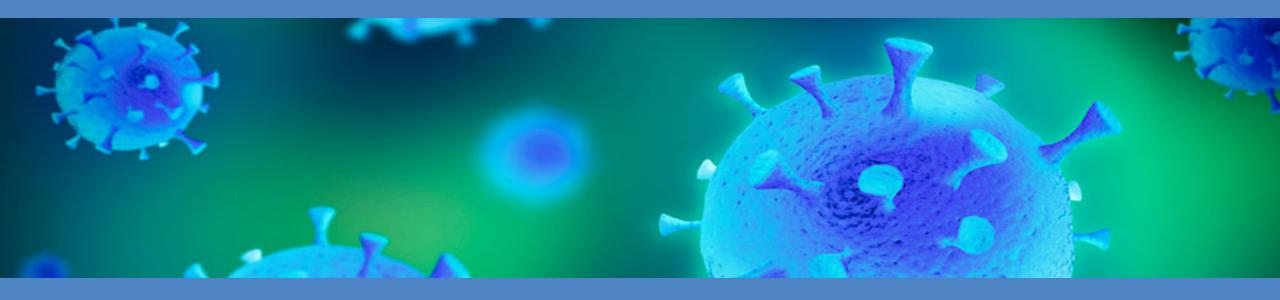
VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



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 7, 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

- National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
 - Also (for Dr. Lewis First) Walt Disney 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, CDC updates
- □ Practice Issues: VDH Immunization Program Update
 - Also: Bill Raszka & Ben Lee update re: school site visit
- □ Q & A, Discussion



https://www.nps.gov/valr/index.htm



https://www.mynbc5.com/article/28-things-you-may-not-know-about-dr-lewis-first/3276671

[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)

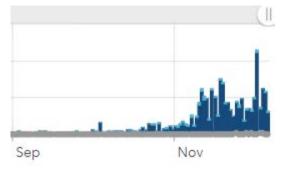
- Vermont COVID-19 cases now includes probable cases reported to VDH since September 6, 2020.
- Definition:
 - Person tested positive on antigen test and has symptoms of COVID-19 or epidemiologic evidence, OR
 - Person has symptoms of COVID-19 and is epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case of COVID-19.





Situation update





VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

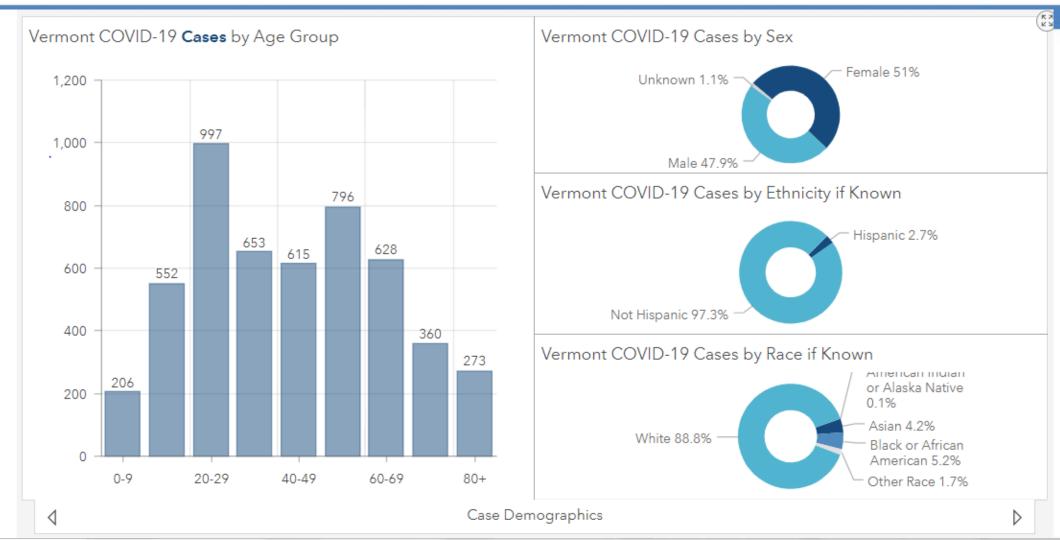
- □ U.S. 14.8 million+ cases; 282,313 deaths
 - https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirusus-cases.html (updated 12/7/20)
 - 12/6/20: 173,457 new cases; 1,111 deaths; 101,487 hospitalized
 - Past week: average 196,826 cases/day (increase of 15% from average 2 weeks ago)
 - 1.5 million+ deaths worldwide (67.1 million+ cases)
 - VDH Weekly Data Summary(12/4/20)
 - Weekly Spotlight Topic: Recent Outbreaks
- Find previous summaries at:
 - https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/currentactivity/weekly-data-summary



10.55.19 AM



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 12/1/20: **128** total cases; 18 cases reported in preceding 7 days (down from 35 reported previous week)

November 29, 2020

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	16	128

Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

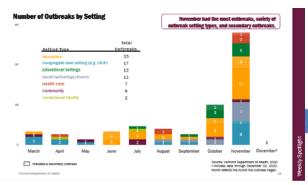
Learning Community Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	35	110

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





VDH Updates



Weekly Spotlight topic on 12/4/20: *Recent Outbreaks*

- "Increase in interactions among people at social gatherings among trusted groups is leading to recent increase in outbreaks" (per contact tracing, etc.) – often lead to higher # close contacts/case.
- Settings like: private parties, rec sports, workplaces "people tend to let their guard down" re: masks, distancing, etc.
- Notable increase in outbreaks in Oct. led to increased # total cases in Nov., esp. in congregate care settings.
- November had the most: outbreaks, variety of outbreak setting types, and secondary outbreaks.
- Reminder: VDH Health Advisory: 12/3/20 Updated Guidance
 Regarding Testing for SARS-CoV-2 (rec. "testing more broadly")



VDH Updates (cont'd.)

Expansion of Testing capacity:

- □ >230 sites posted today through 12/30/20
 - 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.
 However: all sites are prepared to take people who arrive and are experiencing symptoms.
- □ Of sites posted, 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



CDC Updates

- MMWR early release (12/4/20): Summary of Guidance for Public Health Strategies to Address High Levels of Community Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and Related Deaths, December 2020
 - Among the strategies highlighted are universal face mask use, physical distancing, avoiding nonessential indoor spaces, increasing testing, prompt quarantine of exposed persons, safeguarding those at increased risk for severe illness or death, protecting essential workers, postponing travel, enhancing ventilation and hand hygiene, and achieving widespread COVID-19 vaccination coverage.
- MMWR (early release 12/3/20): The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' Interim Recommendation for Allocating Initial Supplies of COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, 2020





In the (Vermont) News

- □ COVID-19 in VT Colleges this fall: https://vtdigger.org/2020/12/06/vermont-colleges-post-some-of-the-nations-lowest-covid-19-numbers/
- COVID-19 Impacts on Food Security & Systems: A Third Survey of Vermonters
 - https://www.uvm.edu/gund/news/covid-19-food-insecurity-hits-record-levels-Vermont
 - Nearly 30% of Vermonters have experienced food insecurity (record level: almost 3X 2018 levels)
 - Approx. 1 / 4 eating fewer servings of fruits and vegetables; less red meat & seafood compared to before the pandemic.
 - 33% of respondents used food assistance programs (19.1% 3SquaresVT; 15% pantry.
 - Nearly 40% households w/job disruptions (25% lost jobs, 35% decr. income, 20% furl.)
- And it's not just Vermont: U. of TX study of Austin-area families links food insecurity to community rate of COVID-19 cases.
 - https://statesman-tx-app.newsmemory.com/?publink=0a946d4d3_134391b





In the News

- ANTHONY FAUCI ONE-ON-ONE
- President-elect Biden Announces new members of Health Team
 - Xavier Becerra, Secretary of Health and Human Services; Vivek Murthy, Surgeon General; Rochelle Walensky (ID chief Harvard/MGH), CDC Director; Marcella Nunez-Smith, chair of the COVID-19 Equity Task Force; Anthony Fauci, chief medical adviser to the president on COVID-19; Jeff Zients, coordinator of the COVID-19 response and counselor to the President; and Natalie Quillian, deputy coordinator of the COVID-19 response.
- From the New York Times:
 - New York City Reopens Elementary Schools in Midst of Worsening Outbreak (12/7/20)
 - Natural Immunity' From Covid Is Not Safer Than a Vaccine (12/5/20)
 - Many Trial Volunteers Got Placebo Vaccines.Do They Now Deserve Real Ones? (12/2)
- □ From The New Yorker interview with Atul Gawande:

https://www.newyorker.com/news/the-new-yorker-interview/atul-gawande-on-coronavirus-vaccines-and-prospects-for-ending-the-pandemic

VT Pediatricians Respond to COVID-19!

Drs. Ben Lee & Bill Raszka meet with Orchard School (S. Burlington) students and staff to discuss COVID-19 (*Thank you, Erica Gibson MD and orchardschoolvt Instagram page*)









VDH Response to (new) CDC Quarantine Guidance

- At this time, there are no plans to change Vermont's existing policy, which calls for a 14-day quarantine, or gives the option to get a PCR test at Day 7 or later to end quarantine early with a negative test, as long as the person continues to have no symptoms.
- This policy, implemented in May, is well-understood by Vermonters and our data show it has worked to prevent further spread of COVID-19.
- "We will continue to review our guidance regularly to make sure we are using best practices based on data and science throughout the pandemic."
- □ NOTE: New Hampshire **WILL** adopt new CDC guidance https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/covid-19-update27.pdf





VCHIP-CHAMP Email Update

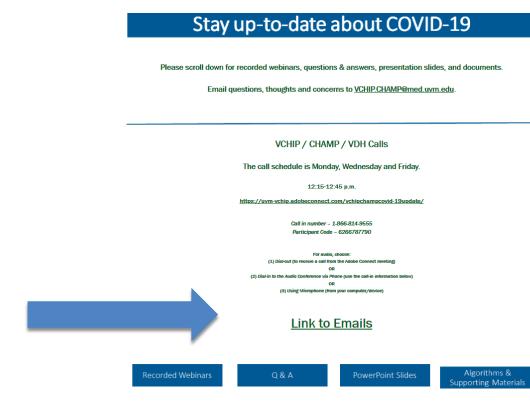
- Had received inquiries re: post-call emails not being received last few weeks (unclear if related to cyber attack)
- Continuing to work with LCOM Information Systems (COMIS) to remove (automatic) block due to large percentage of messages marked as spam by many recipients originating from our VCHIP-CHAMP mailbox
- Created a UVM LISTSERV to hopefully resolve the issue. Replies to the LISTSERV will still go to <u>vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu</u>.
 - □ Please continue to use vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu for feedback/inquiries
- □ Please continue to let us know if you are NOT receiving emails.





CHAMP E-Mail Distribution

For now, we will continue to post email on our landing page following the call and it will remain there until the subsequent email is posted.







Practice Issues

VDH Immunization Program Update

Christine Finley, APRN MPH – VDH Immunization Program Mgr. Merideth Plumpton, RN – Nurse Program Coordinator







ACIP Vote – Interim Recommendation

When a COVID-19 vaccine is authorized by FDA and recommended by ACIP, health care personnel[§] and residents of long-term care facilities[¶] should be offered vaccination in the initial phase of the COVID-19 vaccination program (Phase 1a)

⁵Health care personnel are defined as paid and unpaid persons serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials

¶ Long-term care facility residents are defined as adults who reside in facilities that provide a variety of services, including medical and personal care, to persons who are unable to live independently

COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation - DRAFT proposal 12/2; 11:25AM

Phase 1A: Health care workers (HCW) likely to be exposed/treat COVID-19 patients

- Long-term care facility residents and staff who have patient contact
- Clinical and support staff who have direct patient contact— priority should be given to the following groups:
- HCW (all classes including support personnel) primarily located in the ED and ICU, providing care to COVID patients and EMS
- First responders with high likelihood of exposure; direct contact with the public

Current plans for vaccination of Phase 1A

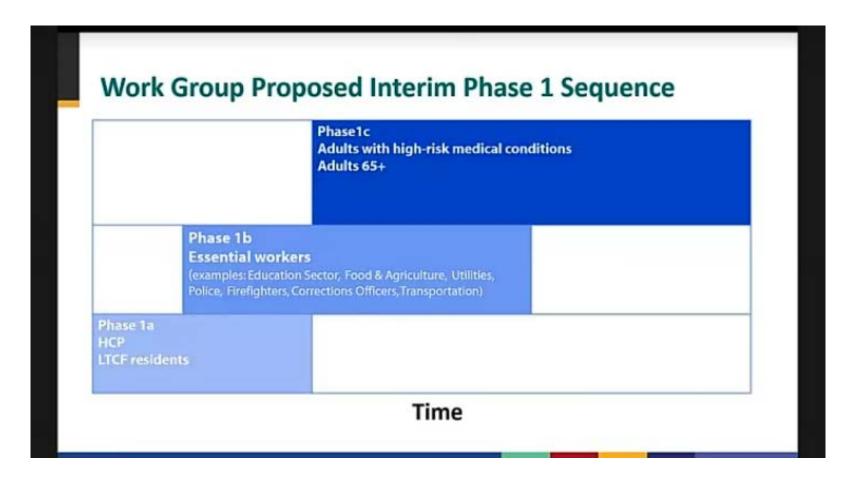
- All hospitals have agreed to offer COVID-19 vaccination services to include Phase 1A HCW's in their HSA's- details are being finalized by the mass vaccination team
- Federal pharmacy LTC Program will first vaccinate SNF residents and staff then other LTCF's (Assisted Living, Residential, HUD 202) –
 - Pfizer vaccine chosen for LTCF's
 - LTCF –SNF's activated vaccination can start on 12/21
- VDH will provide vaccine clinics as indicated to address gaps
- Statewide access is a priority.

The Federal Pharmacy Partnership for LTC Program will ensure access to COVID-19 vaccine for Vermont's LTCF residents and staff

WHY?

- CDC is partnering with pharmacies to offer on-site COVID-19 vaccination services for nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
- Walgreen's, CVS and Health Direct (Kinney) in Vermont
- The Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care (LTC) Program provides end-toend management of the COVID-19 vaccination process, including cold chain management, on-site vaccinations, and fulfillment of reporting requirements, to facilitate safe vaccination of this patient population, while reducing burden on facilities and jurisdictional health departments.

CDC ACIP: Proposed Interim Phase 1



Federal Pharmacy Retail Partnership Program

Selected pharmacies will receive a direct allocation from the federal government.

This is intended to help states augment access to vaccine when supply increases and vaccine is recommended beyond the initial critical populations.

Chain Partners that have Vermont stores (currently):

Costco Shaw's/Osco

CVS Walgreen's

Hannaford Walmart

Price Chopper

State Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine

- Prepositioned shipments of the Pfizer vaccine will go to the Immunization Program Depot and UVMMC
- Due to a limited allocation, large minimum order, and ultracold temperature requirements, the Pfizer vaccine will initially be <u>transferred</u> from the Depot to District Offices/PODS and enrolled hospitals.
- For sites without ultracold storage, the vaccine will be stored in a refrigerator, where it remains viable for 5 days.
- The Moderna vaccine requires normal freezer storage. This vaccine may be delivered directly from McKesson Specialty or transferred from the Depot.

CDC Asks That:

- Healthcare providers give a one-page enrollment sheet to patients at the time of vaccination
- Healthcare providers counsel patients on the importance of enrolling in v-safe
- CDC will create an electronic version of the v-safe information sheet for printing



What is v-safe?

V-safe is a smartphone-based tool that uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins after you receive a COVID-19 vaccination. Through v-safe, you can quickly tell CDC if you have any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. Depending on your answers, someone from CDC may call to check on you. And v-safe will remind you to get your second COVID-19 vaccine dose if you need one.

Your participation in CDC's **v-safe** makes a difference—it helps keep COVID-19 vaccines safe.

How can I participate?

Once you get a COVID-19 vaccine, you can enroll in **v-safe** using your smartphone. Participation is voluntary and you can opt out at any time. To opt out, simply text "STOP" when **v-safe** sends you a text message. You can also start **v-safe** again by texting "START."

How long do v-safe check-ins last?

During the first week after you get your vaccine, v-safe will send you a text message each day to ask how you are doing. Then you



Use your smartphone to tell CDC about any side effects after getting the COVID-19 vaccine. You'll also get reminders if you need a second vaccine dose.



DRAFT

Multiple strategies will be used to support the statewide COVID-19 vaccination campaign

- Public communication initiatives; risk communication
- Prioritize vaccine availability for critical populations; identify phases
- Focus on equitable vaccination access to vaccination services
- Monitor COVID-19 vaccine uptake and coverage in critical populations
- Enhance strategies to reach populations with low vaccination uptake or coverage
- Partner with commercial/private entities to ensure vaccination services are widely available
- Monitor supply and repositioning refrigerated vaccine products to minimize vaccine wastage
- Provider training opportunities





From Sarah Squirrel, Commissioner VT Dept. of Mental Health

Vermonters have a broad range of free, confidential mental health supports available to them 24/7:

- Call Vermont 2-1-1
- Visit COVIDSUPPORTVT.org
- Crisis Text Line text the letters "VT" to 741741. Get immediate counseling and support through text messaging.
- Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255. To learn more about how you can help a loved one, visit Know the Warning Signs: suicidepreventionlifeline.org/how-we-can-all-prevent-suicide
- Visit VTHELPLINK.org or call 1-800-565-LINK for substance use support
- Call the Trevor Lifeline (LGBTQ Crisis Lifeline): 1-866-488-7368
- Call the Veteran's Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8255 and press 1
- Contact your primary care provider
- Talk to a family member, friend, health care provider, a faith leader, teacher or coach

CHAMP Network MOC QI Project 2020-2021: Strengthening Vermont's System of High-Performing Medical Homes

- Please join our CHAMP QI project: Strengthening VT's High-Performing Medical Homes
 - Provide reliable, comprehensive, family-centered preventive services & well child visits based on Bright Futures. Use a 2-generation approach with families.
 - Provide care coordination & case management at appropriate levels.
 - Use community services & supports for healthy development.
 - Use QI to constantly adapt and improve.
- □ 2 measurement/improvement options to choose from (12/24 month or 3/6 year)
- Monthly collaborative call topics include: Promoting Family Strengths: Screening and Coordination in Early Childhood; Clinician Wellness; Developmental Assessments
- □ It's not too late to enroll please let us know by December 8, 2020!

Contact the VCHIP CHAMP Team at <u>vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu</u> with questions about participation.





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





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/champ2020learningsessionmoraldeterminantsofhe-alth/event/registration.html





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.





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: Wednesday, December 9, 12:15-12:45 (current schedule: M-W-F):
 Friday topic: Update from DCF
- Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:

Thursday, December 10, 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#



