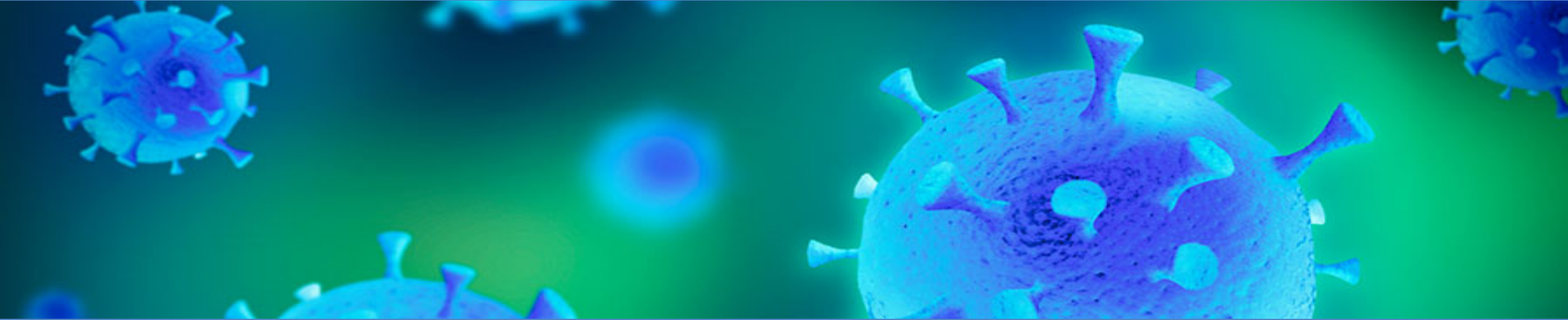


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM
Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH
January 13, 2021



Technology Notes

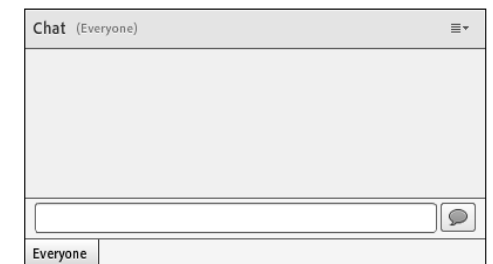
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

Call in number – 1-866-814-9555

Participant Code – 6266787790

Presenters: Please avoid the use of speakerphone and make sure your computer speaker is muted if you dialed in via phone.

- 3) To ask or respond to a question using the **Chat** box, type your question and click the  icon or press Enter to send.



Overview

□ Korean American Day

- KEI honoring Dr. Sahie Kang, Director of Middlebury College's School of Korean <https://www.middlebury.edu/language-schools/people/sahie-kang>

□ *Reminder* – weekly event schedule:

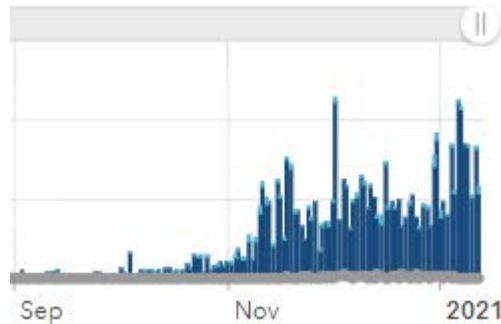
- **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: M/W/F**; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine Thursday.
- **Week of Jan. 18: calls on Monday (MLK Day) & Friday; (NO call Wednesday, 1/20 – Inauguration Day)**
- Situation, VDH, vaccine updates; Tuesday media briefing
- Practice Issues: **Wednesday 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]



Situation update

New Cases
118
9,368 Total
Currently Hospitalized
48
Hospitalized In ICU
8
Hospitalized Under Investigation
3
Percent Positive 7-day Avg.
2.8%
People Tested
281,032
Total Tests
771,018
Recovered
6,321
67.5% of Cases
Deaths
158
1.7% of Cases
Travelers Monitored
167
Contacts Monitored
178
People Completed Monitoring
12,231
Last Updated: 1/13/2021, 10:59:32 AM



VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

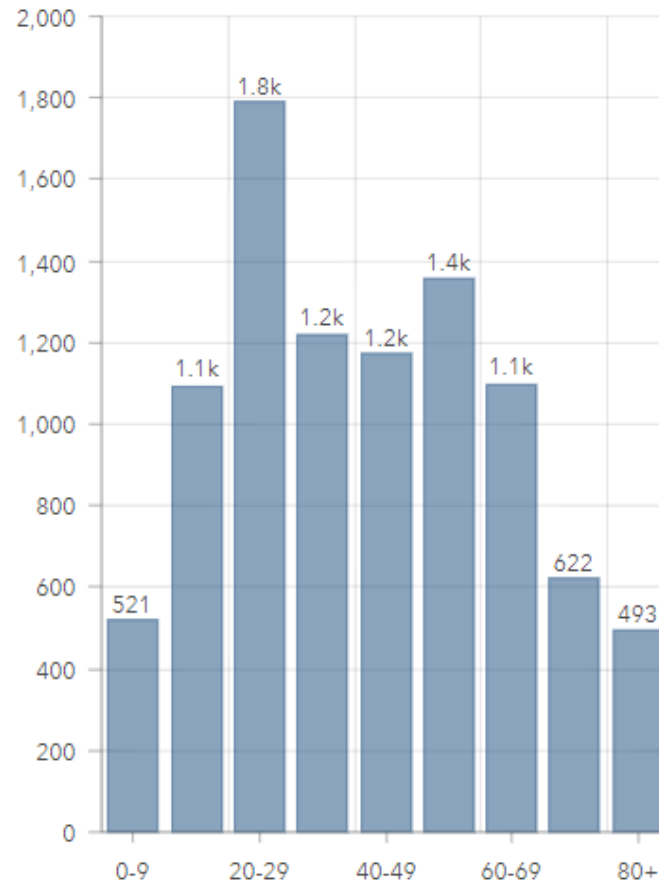
- U.S. 22.4 million+ cases; **380,882 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html> (updated 1/13/21)
 - 1/12/21: **229,712 new cases; 4,406 d.; 131,326 hosp.**
 - Past week: average 249,961 cases/day (increase of 37% from average 2 weeks earlier)
 - **1.9 million+ deaths worldwide** (91.6 million+ cases)
- **VDH Weekly Data Summary(1/8/21)**
 - **Weekly Spotlight Topic: Town Level Data**
- Find previous summaries at:
 - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weekly-data-summary>

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

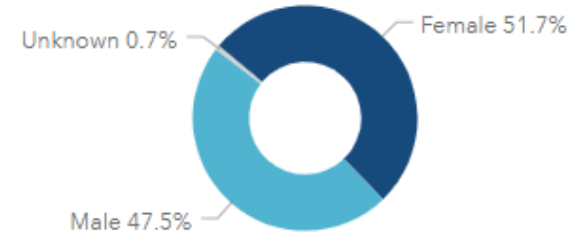
January 13, 2021

Situation update

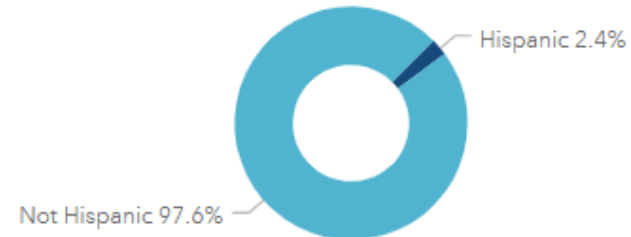
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



Case Demographics

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 & Friday** w/data through previous Sunday & Wednesday. As posted **1/12/21: 304** total cases; 29 cases reported in preceding 7 days.

January 10, 2021

Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

Learning Community	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.		
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	29	304

- VT College & University dashboards:

- ▣ Now on break from on-campus learning: <https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening>

January 6, 2021

Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

Learning Community	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.		
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	4	277

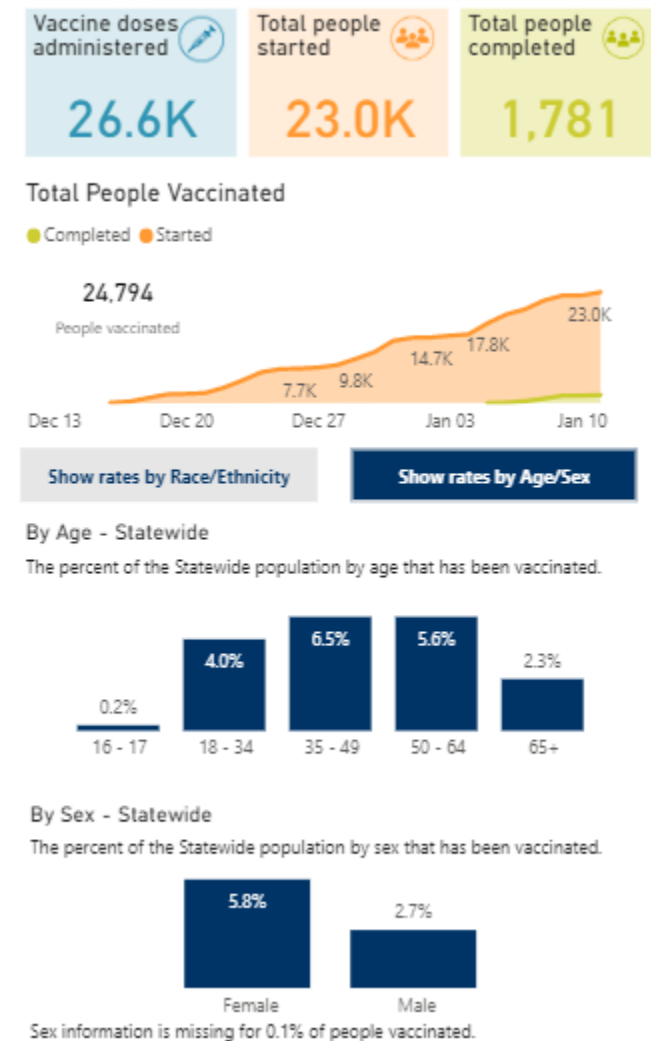
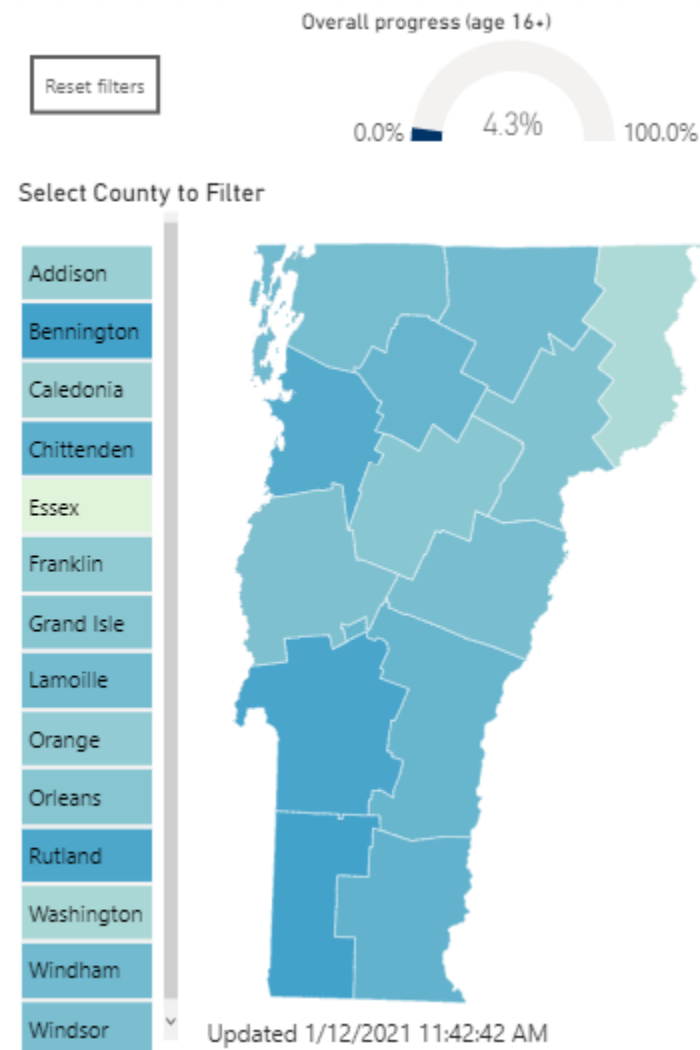
VDH Updates: Testing

Testing capacity:

- ~344 sites (334 CIC on-demand; 10 pop-ups) posted 1/11/21 – 1/31/21
 - ▣ Same-day testing slots now posted all day; **36,893** slots currently open.
- **NOTE:** VDH posted testing sites are intended for **asymptomatic** pts.; prefer symptomatic pts. to seek connection to PCP/medical home.
- CIC locations include:
 - ▣ 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
- Pop-up locations listed: Burlington, Colchester, St. Albans, Williston

VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard

- Now updated ***daily***
- Data = counts reported by end previous day; subject to change.
- Expect enhancements as more info available.
- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard>

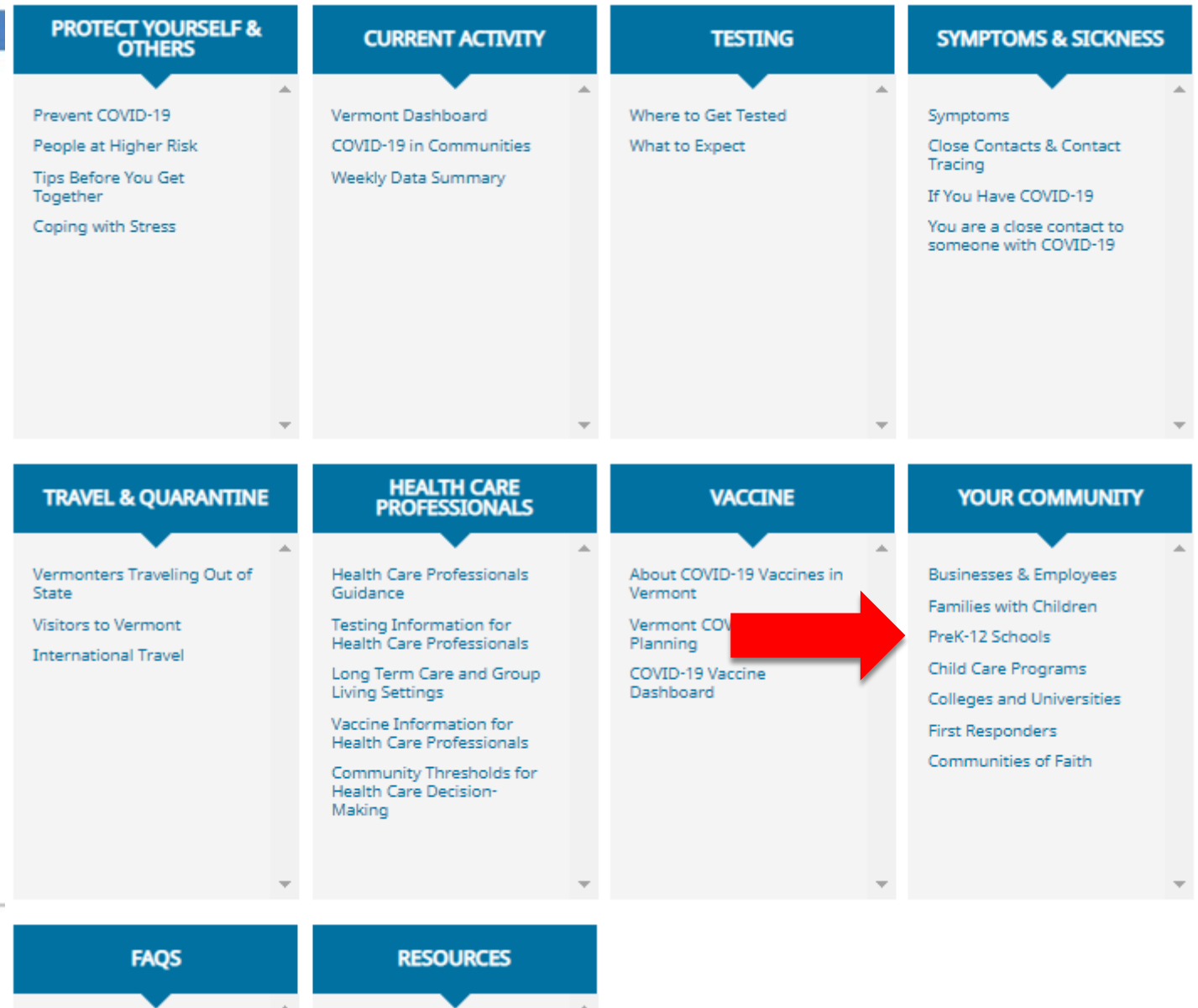


“American Academy of Pediatrics Urges Immediate Changes in Distribution of COVID-19 Vaccine” (1/12/21)

- ❑ <https://services.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2021/american-academy-of-pediatrics-urges-immediate-changes-in-distribution-of-covid-19-vaccine/>
- ❑ Pediatricians across the country are frustrated at the uneven/haphazard distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Many AAP members/other physicians have no clear path to receiving vaccine, esp. those who don't work for a large medical center/hospital system. Those immunized have ltd. information on next steps to share w/pts., practices & communities.
- ❑ “Pediatricians, perhaps more than any other medical specialty, understand how to distribute vaccines. We do this every day, in every community, in many different types of health care settings. The AAP stands ready/willing to advise/assist in distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Immunizations are not simple, but we know the protocols and processes that work best.
- ❑ “Without clear and immediate action, the situation will only get worse. We are at the starting line of vaccine distribution, with the smallest groups designated to receive vaccine. As we move into the 1b and 1c phases of vaccine distribution – or as more vaccines become available – the scale will become dramatically vaster. And so, it is imperative that robust systems be put in place immediately to make sure no dose is wasted, and that these systems use and expand upon the existing vaccine delivery infrastructure.”

COVID-19 & Schools: Finding Info on VDH Web Site

- VDH main web page:
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19> (shown here)
- VDH PreK-12 Schools:
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/your-community/prek-12-schools> (see **arrow**)
- Useful documents:
Guidance; Preparing for a positive case; Templates and Forms for Schools to Use; Resources and Posters



COVID-19 & Schools

- ❑ Several schools w/cases but not a greater burden than pre-holiday break
- ❑ Current operational approach (described in Q & A summary from Monday's call)
 - ▣ Web site documents being updated (see previous slide)
- ❑ Note: Governor/AOE Secy. call for fully in-person school ~April
 - ▣ Supported by VERY low in-school transmission (cases, teacher surveillance)
 - ▣ Teachers continue to express interest in being vaccinated.
- ❑ Schools will likely need support – ***seeking your assistance!***
- ❑ School Reopening Task Force not likely to reconvene soon

From the CDC

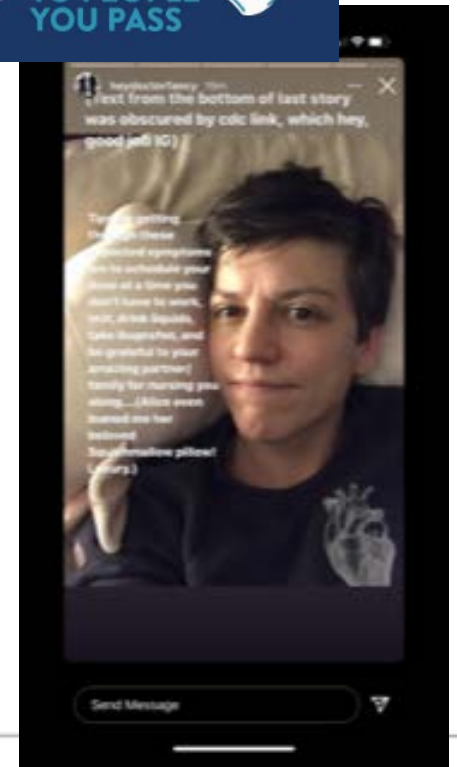
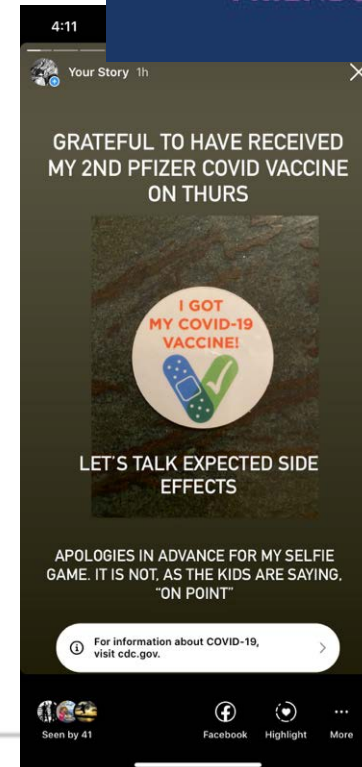
Note: received following today's call (Early Release/Jan. 13, 2021/70)

- MMWR Early Release: **COVID-19 Trends Among Persons Aged 0–24 Years – United States, March 1–December 12, 2020**
- **Summary:**
 - ▣ **What is already known about this topic?** Children and adolescents have had lower incidence and fewer severe COVID-19 outcomes than adults.
 - ▣ **What is added by this report?** Increased cases in children/adolescents/young adults increased since summer 2020; weekly inc. higher in each successively increasing age group. Trends among 0–17 yo paralleled those among adults.
 - ▣ **What are the implications for public health practice?** To enable safer in-person learning, fully implement/strictly adhere to multiple mitigation strategies (esp. universal/proper mask wearing, to reduce both school and community incidence to help protect students, teachers, and staff members from COVID-19.

Social Media Update

- COVID-19 vaccine & 2nd dose side effects – from trusted pediatricians
 - ▣ Rebecca Bell, MD FAAP; L E Faricy, MD FAAP
- New VDH Campaign: **Simple Acts of Kindness** (FB, Twitter, Instagram)
 - ▣ In times like these, a little bit of kindness goes a long way. We're asking Vermonters to kick off the new year by engaging in simple acts of kindness. Try one of these options, or come up with your own, to help brighten spirits across our state!

Check them out!



(National) AAP Updates

- **Latest AAP COVID-19 Town Hall: Thursday, 1/7/21**
 - ▣ ***COVID-19 and Safe Return to School Q & A***
 - ▣ Summary article in AAP News:
<https://www.aappublications.org/news/2021/01/08/covid19-schools-qa-010821>
- Revised COVID-19 interim guidance: ***Safe Schools*** – now posted on AAP COVID-19 page
 - ▣ <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

Upcoming Events

- Big Change Roundup: bigchangeroundup.org
 - ▣ Largest fundraiser for the UVMCH; funds raised support patients and families.
 - ▣ Examples: some child life services; new program startup (e.g., Transgender Program; safe sleep program on Mother Baby Unit); injury prevention initiatives; food insecurity initiative (CSC); support for inpatient families (ferry passes, gas cards, meal vouchers)
- Please help to promote personally as you are able and through your practices/organizations

Upcoming Events

- UVM LCOM Story Slam
 - ▣ Theme: Friends in Unexpected Places
 - ▣ January 21, 2021: 7 – 9 pm; reg. required
 - ▣ *Thank you, Dr. Andrea Green*

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (1/18/21)

- Film & discussion w/Deborah Lisi-Baker about MLK legacy and disability rights.
 - ▣ Mon., Jan 18, 2021, 4 – 5 pm
- (Virtual) Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Remembrance with Tim Wise
 - ▣ January 17, 3:00 pm
 - ▣ Live streamed VT Humanities Digital Channels

Thu., January 21, 2021

StorySlamRx

Voices in Medicine

Join us for an evening of true stories told by members of the UVM medical community.

The theme for this year's StorySlamRx is Friends in Unexpected Places.

A LIVE Zoom Virtual Event
7-9pm EST

All members of the LCOM & UVMMC Communities are welcome.

For more information or to register,
[visit go.uvm.edu/storyslamrx](https://go.uvm.edu/storyslamrx)

Contact Kiersten Hallquist with any questions:
Kiersten.Hallquist@med.uvm.edu



In Case You Missed It/Coming Attractions

- UVM MC OB Grand Rounds (January): Tuesdays, 7:30 – 8:30 (*T-Y, M. Kaufold*)
 - ▣ Vermont Plan of Safe Care 2.0: Updates/Tools (Michelle Shepard, MD PhD; 1/12/21); Provider Bias & Cultural Humility (1/19/21); Patient & Family Centered Care (1/26/21)
 - ▣ COVID Vaccine in Prepregnancy, Pregnancy, & Lactation (Marj Meyer, MD; 12/22/20)
- UVM Children's Hospital/Pediatric Grand Rounds (January)
 - ▣ Take a Deep Breath: A New Population Health Outcome Measure for Pediatric Asthma (Keith Robinson, MD; 1/20/21); Contemplating the Use of Mindfulness in Pediatrics: A Call to Non-Doing (Andrew Rosenfeld, MD; 1/27/21)
- KidSafe Collaborative Legislative Forum (virtual): Mon., **1/25/21**, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
- 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!)

Tuesday Media Briefing (1/12/21)

Governor Phil Scott

- ❑ Across our nation/region/VT still experiencing concerning trends: case counts, hospitalizations, deaths on the rise.
- ❑ We're vaccinating more older Vermonters to protect those least likely to survive COVID-19 infection – "I believe we have a moral obligation to do so."
- ❑ Using data to drive age-based approach in next phase
- ❑ Having a clearly defined, easily understandable, accessible vaccination plan is critical. With age-based strategy, we'll see deaths decrease – even if cases continue to increase.
- ❑ Acknowledge next round small bus. loans from latest federal relief package (see VT ACCD)



Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- Pandemic continues to intensify across U.S. – breaking records.
- Northeast: >200K cases this week = 17% rise vs. last week – single largest rise in one week; likely seeing impact of holidays. Regional testing also increased closer to pre-holiday level; drove down regional positivity rate but still >WHO-recommended 5%.
- Vermont: 1166 new cases this week, ~400> last week & record # for pandemic. Over past 5d., VT has had more cases than May thru Sept. combined; suggests post-holiday surge. Tracking closer to post-Halloween (vs. TG) surge; but started with higher baseline pre-Christmas.
- Forecast: cont'd. case rise thru Feb. – could be 300 cases/d. Should have hosp./ICU resources even if this forecast holds (would need to av ~380/d. 14d.)

□ **Vaccine:** VT 1st in northeast doses/capita (tied w/CT); and 6th in U.S.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



- Comm. Levine: awaiting final assessment re: New Year's Eve impact (14d.)
- Contact tracers have identified several multi-family gatherings w/potential for spread – but NOT tied to small gatherings we allowed during holidays.
- 44 outbreaks (Benn. has run its course; Addison Co. church-related now close to 100 cases); 344 situations – 42 added 1/11/21. Majority are in LTCF, non HC sites.
- Asympto transmission can occur in up to 44% cases; now reported poss. up to 50%.
 - CDC article: SARS-CoV-2 Transmission From People Without COVID-19 Symptoms
 - Decision analytical model: asymptomatic transmission est. to account for > half of all transmissions. <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/277470>
- Monoclonal antibody use in VT: about ½ VT hosps. have requested & admin doses.
- Argentina study re: convalescent plasma
- From Q & A: any events that described yet assoc. w/bus trip to DC? “Don’t believe so.”

Media Briefing Q & A Highlights

- Security issues as we approach Inauguration Day (Gov. DPS Commissioner Schirling) – generally do not discuss details.
- Vaccine distribution questions: *“stay tuned for Friday briefing.”*
- Any adverse reactions to vaccine in VT? Comm. Levine: “I’ve heard of several people who had to be transported to ER – this is a very small # vs. the 25K doses administered.
 - ▣ Treated w/epi? Comm. Levine: Not aware of details – but that’s why we have observation periods.
- Reports of discarded vaccine? Levine: not aware of this as an issue- hospitals trying to immediately use up unused doses at end of a clinic or day.

Practice Issues

Wednesday Potpourri



Now Recruiting: Temporary Medical Record Chart Reviewers

- ❑ CHAMP needs temporary medical record chart reviewers from February through May or June 2021 for annual statewide chart review.
- ❑ Qualifications:
 - ❑ Bachelor's degree (or equivalent education/experience required).
 - ❑ We seek candidates who have worked in a healthcare setting, including experience reading medical records. Qualified candidates will have strong computer skills, attention to detail and accuracy, and can commit to working a minimum of three full days per week.
 - ❑ **Willing to consider current/former practice staff.**
- ❑ Details:
 - ❑ During the COVID-19 pandemic this position will be remote. Computer equipment will be provided, however internet access and a private space for chart review is required.
 - ❑ **Flexible work hours may be available**
 - ❑ Required trainings include: Data Security; Confidentiality; IRB and GCP.
 - ❑ The position pays \$20 per hour.
 - ❑ Submit cover letter and resume to VCHIP.CHAMP@med.uvm.edu

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.

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
 - 2) 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.

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: **Friday, January 15, 2021 – 12:15-12:45**
- ❑ Generally back to **Monday/Wednesday/Friday** schedule (exception next week: 1/18 & 1/22)
- ❑ Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:
Thursday, January 14, 2021 - 12:30-1:00 p.m. – Zoom platform & call information:
- ❑ **Join Zoom Meeting:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJlZFQ2R3diSVdqdIJ2ZG4yQT09>
 - ❑ Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684
- ❑ One tap mobile - +1 646 876 9923,,86726253105#,,,0#,,540684#