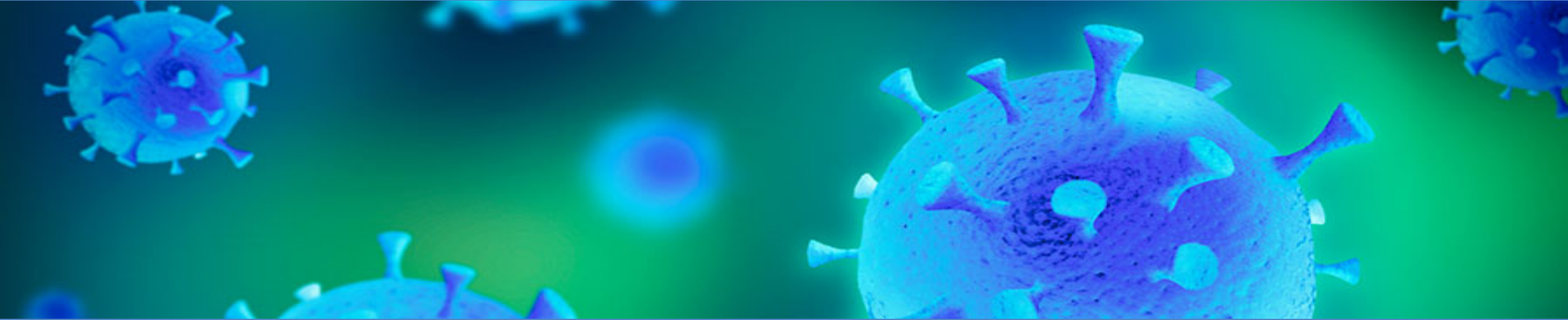


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



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 15, 2021



Technology Notes

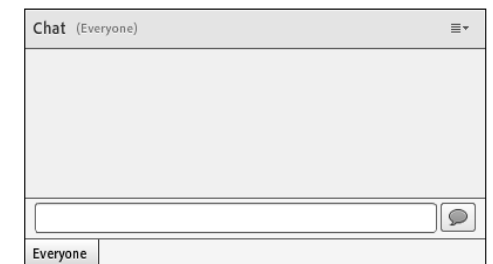
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

Call in number – 1-866-814-9555

Participant Code – 6266787790

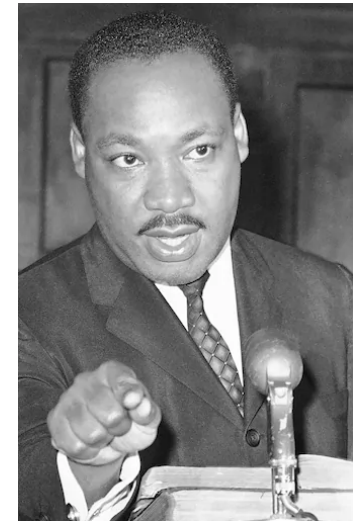
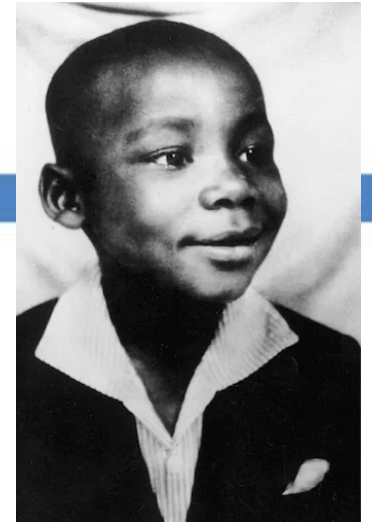
Presenters: Please avoid the use of speakerphone and make sure your computer speaker is muted if you dialed in via phone.

- 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

- **Celebrating the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**
- *Reminder* – weekly event schedule:
 - ▣ **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: M/W/F**; Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine Thursday.
 - ▣ **Next week (Jan. 18): calls on Monday (MLK Day) & Friday; (NO call Wednesday, 1/20 – Inauguration Day)**
- Situation, VDH, vaccine updates; Tuesday media briefing
- Practice Issues: **Friday Potpourri**
- Q & A/Discussion

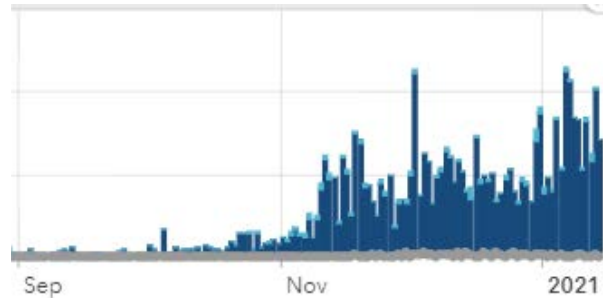


<https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2019/01/15/story-how-michael-king-jr-became-martin-luther-king-jr/>

[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
142
9,734 Total
Currently Hospitalized
44
Hospitalized In ICU
6
Hospitalized Under Investigation
1
Percent Positive 7-day Avg.
2.7%
People Tested
284,215
Total Tests
788,759
Recovered
6,506
66.8% of Cases
Deaths
163
1.7% of Cases
Travelers Monitored
188
Contacts Monitored
203
People Completed Monitoring
12,258
Last Updated: 1/15/2021, 10:46:14 AM

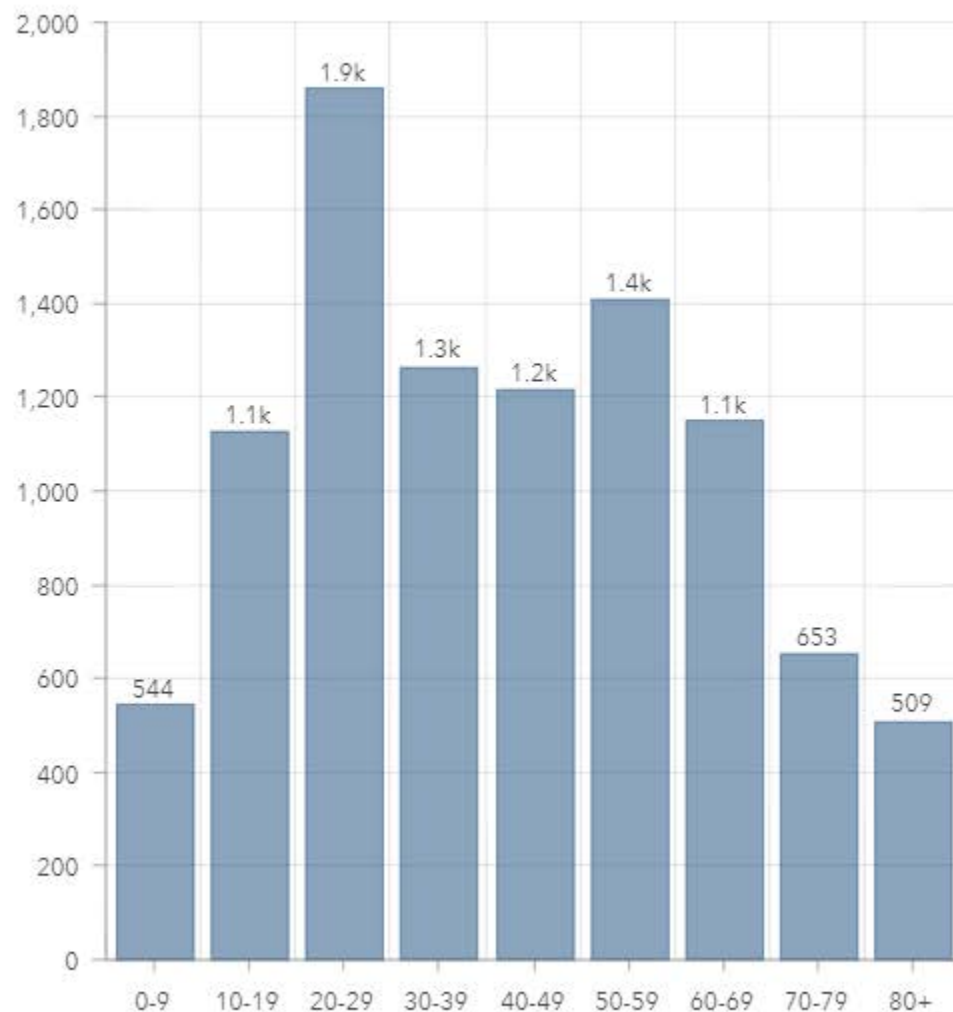


VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

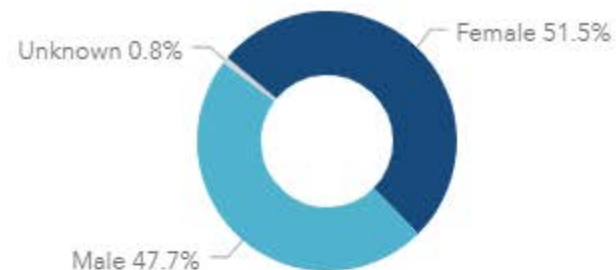
- U.S. 23.3 million+ cases; **388,785 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html> (updated 1/15/21)
 - 1/14/21: **238,390 new cases; 3,973 d.; 128,947 hosp.**
 - Past week: average 240,199 cases/day (increase of 27% from average 2 weeks earlier)
 - **1.9 million+ deaths worldwide** (93.2 million+ cases)
- **VDH Weekly Data Summary(1/15/21)**
 - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Weekly-Data-Summary-1-15-2021.pdf>
 - **Weekly Spotlight Topic: How are people getting COVID-19?**
- Find previous summaries at:
 - <https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/weekly-data-summary>

Situation update

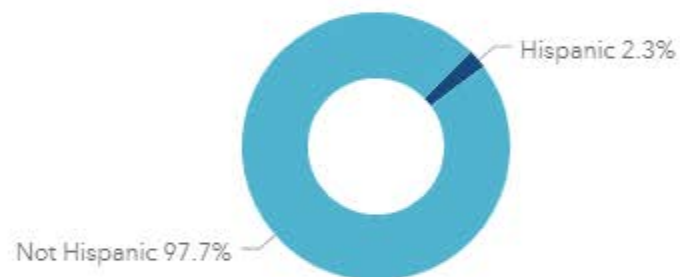
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known



COVID-19 Cases in VT K-12 Learning Communities (While Infectious)

□ COVID-19 Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

▣ <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Transmission-Schools.pdf>

▣ Table updated **Tuesday & Friday** w/data through previous Sunday & Wednesday.

January 13, 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	45	325

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

□ Rochester/Stockbridge outbreak (5 cases): ***thank you, Dr. Ashley Miller*** (So. Royalton Health Center) for meeting w/community members last night – rave reviews!

□ VT College & University dashboards:

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

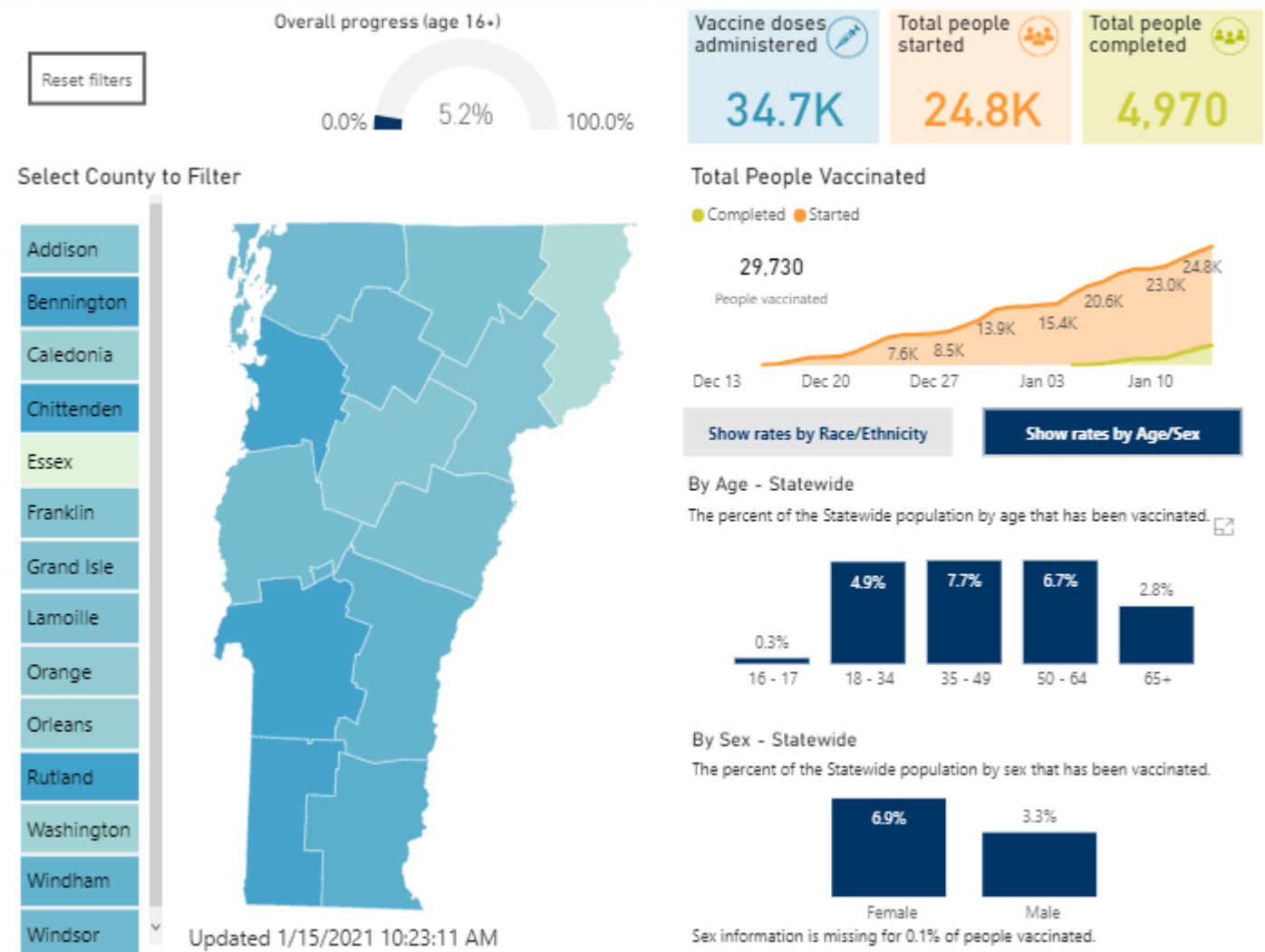
VDH Updates: Testing

Testing capacity:

- ~312 sites (305 CIC on-demand; 7 pop-ups) posted 1/15/21 – 1/31/21
 - ▣ Same-day testing slots now posted all day; 33,334 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>



COVID-19 Vaccine: Vermont

- Vermont Vaccine Implementation Advisory Committee
- Meeting today (1/15/21) – Agenda:
 - ▣ Current implementation status, including update on Adverse Events
 - ▣ Review proposed recommendations
 - ▣ Continue to engage with partners in BIPOC planning
- Logistics are exceedingly complex & require coordination among multiple state agencies and community groups
- VDH Immunization Program responsible for certain aspects in coordination with partners
- AHS RFP COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic Support

From the CDC

Note: received following Wednesday 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.

COVID-19 Variants

- CDC information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/science-and-research/scientific-brief-emerging-variants.html>
- Encouraged to refer to #s (B117, 1.351, P.1) vs. countries to avoid stigmatization
- NYT: ***What Does a More Contagious Virus Mean for Schools?***
 - ▣ <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/14/health/coronavirus-variant-schools.html>
 - ▣ Based on detailed contact-tracing of about 20,000 people infected with the new variant — including nearly 3,000 children under 10 — the report showed that young children were about half as likely as adults to transmit the variant to others. That was true of the previous iteration of the virus, as well.
 - ▣ Primary study not yet available?
- U MN Ctr. for Infectious Disease Research & Policy (**CIDRAP**); Osterholm
 - ▣ Podcast 1/14/21: “Places We’ve Never Been” (incl. info on 3 new COVID variants).
 - ▣ <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/covid-19/podcasts-webinars>

In the News

- Biden announces \$1.9 trillion COVID & economic relief plan (1/14/21)
 - ▣ Direct payments (\$1400) to families; incr. min. wage to \$15; extension of 15% boost in SNAP benefits & more money for WIC
 - ▣ \$170 billion to reopening K-8 schools w/in 1st 100d.; incl. \$50 billion for incr. testing
 - ▣ \$20 billion to create “natl. vaccination program” & stand up community vax centers.
- Biden announces (former FDA chief & **pediatrician**) Dr. David Kessler to help lead Operation Warp Speed (replaces Dr. Moncef Slaoui)
- Washington Post (today): vaccine reserves (in Op. Warp Speed) already exhausted when HHS Secy. Azar announced (1/12) feds “releasing entire state orders vs. holding second doses in physical reserves.” States assumed they would get influx of **new** doses to vaccinate new people – but feds had stopped stockpiling 2nd doses Pfizer vaccine at end 2020 & Moderna 2nd dose reserves began shipping over last weekend (so no remaining reserves).

Friday Media Briefing (1/15/21)



Governor Phil Scott

- Today: Executive Order for State of Emergency extended X 1 mo.
- Effective 1/18/21: Phase 2 sports/rec guidance (cons. w/VDH & AOE)
 - ▣ Recall: Phase 1 = skills/drills. Data has shown no incr. transmission.
- **Phase 2:** school-sponsored winter sports may initiate full team-based, coach-led practice sessions, incl. drills w/incidental contact & team-based scrimmages (effective 1/18/21).
- Masks required at all times. Outdoor individual sports (e.g. skiing) may begin in small groups.
- Governor hopes will soon be able to allow for competitions:
<https://education.vermont.gov/sites/aoe/files/documents/edu-anr-school-winter-sports-programs-for-2020-2021.pdf>

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)

Governor Phil Scott

- Next phase vaccination program: available to more of general public.
 - ▣ Goal remains save lives/prevent deaths.
 - ▣ Since beginning of pandemic, ~92% hospitalizations have occurred in people >60; 80% deaths in people >70.
- Phase 1a was HCWs & LTCFs. – nearing completion.
- Phase 2 to begin week of 1/25 – age banding beg w/75+
 - ▣ “Simplest, easiest to understand” – allow vaccinating more quickly.
 - ▣ Supply remains ltd. – anticipate will take many weeks to complete age bands.



Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)

Governor Phil Scott

- Recognizing South Burlington school employee: Dominick Marabella – *“an icon in the S. Burl School District.”*
- Has been in public education for >60 years – celebrating 90th birthday
- Being celebrated by South Burlington this week for his continued role as student supervisor.
- Understands how important it is for kids to be in school.
- He asked to “make sure to mention how much I appreciate students taking COVID precautions seriously.”



Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



AOE Secretary Dan French

- ❑ Monthly data collection re school ops: thru end Dec.
- ❑ Trends stable since Oct.
- ❑ Total K-12: ~30% in-person; 50% hybrid; 20% fully remote.
 - By grade level: elementary 50% IP (stable Oct. – Dec.); MS: ~20%; HS ~10%
- ❑ School teacher/staff surveillance: ~2200 staff (~40% total staff); only 1 positive test for rate of 0.07%
- ❑ Participation rate = 40% (consistent); some as high as 80% & some lower.
- ❑ Good indication that schools operating very safely.
- ❑ Remains **very rare** that staff/students acquire/spread virus in school.

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



AHS Secretary Mike Smith:

- ❑ Focused on using all available doses as quickly/effectively as possible
- ❑ Current supply: ~8800 doses/week.
 - ▣ Major limiting factor is # of doses manufactured/shipped to states.
- ❑ Anticipate vulnerable VTers vaccinated by “end of winter” (not def.)
- ❑ Vaccine distribution is most complex of VT’s large-scale COVID-19 activities to date.
- ❑ Phase 1a (HCWs & LTCFs) launched 12/15/20.
- ❑ To date nearly 35K doses to 30K people; all SNFs have completed 1st doses; 2nd doses will be completed by end Jan.

Friday Media Briefing (1/15/21)



AHS Secretary Mike Smith:

- Phase 2 = beginning of general population week of 1/25/21; begin with those 75+ yo (will take ~6 wks. to get through – close to 50K).
- Registration will be online or by calling – will share web site & phone number closer to start date. **Do NOT call PCPs, hospitals.**
- Request family members to help w/registration; once you have an appt., “very important to keep it” (avoid wastage/spoilage).
- Clinics to begin **Jan. 27**: state sites, hospitals, pharmacies.
- 2nd doses: expect make appt. for 2nd dose at time/place 1st dose.
- Following federal govt. allocation closely – doing our best to assure 2nd doses will be available; local EMS & HHA will help home-bound.

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



AHS Secretary Mike Smith:

- Working toward less chaotic, safer and ultimately faster than what we're seeing in other places.

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- Next age group 70+; will use same system (apply lessons learned); then 65+, based upon supply. Anticipate completion by end of winter.
- Once 65+ completed, will add 18-65 yo w/chronic conditions at risk for severe illness, per CDC
 - Conditions: current Ca, chronic kidney disease, COPD, heart conditions (CHF, CAD, cardiomyopathy), immunocompromised, severe obesity, pregnancy, type 2 diabetes, Down syndrome, sickle cell disease.
- Also committed to addressing health disparities – will assure BIPOC population provided info & needed access; working w/community leaders.
- Continue mitigation strategies and seek testing if possible exposure.

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- ❑ Case #s update: anticipate surpassing 10K cases by next briefing.
- ❑ 42 outbreaks; 396 situations.
- ❑ Only 11% cases currently associated w/outbreaks.
- ❑ Addison Co. has highest pos. rate (115 cases assoc. w/Victory Baptist Church outbreak); cases in rest of VT suggest community transmission.
- ❑ Almost no impact from schools/child care in outbreaks.
- ❑ Ski areas: most situations related to sporadic cases across different areas; not from skiing itself, nor social activities.
- ❑ Youth sports: no known instances of spread to teammates/close contacts.

Practice Issues

Friday Potpourri



(National) AAP Updates

- **Next AAP COVID-19 Town Hall:** Thursday, 1/21/21
- **Ask the Red Book About COVID-19**
 - ▣ Opportunity to have questions answered re: virus variants, vaccine, & more by Red Book Committee leaders
 - ▣ Previous Town Hall (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/>

Social Media Update

- 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!



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!)

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: ***Monday, January 18, 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 21, 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#