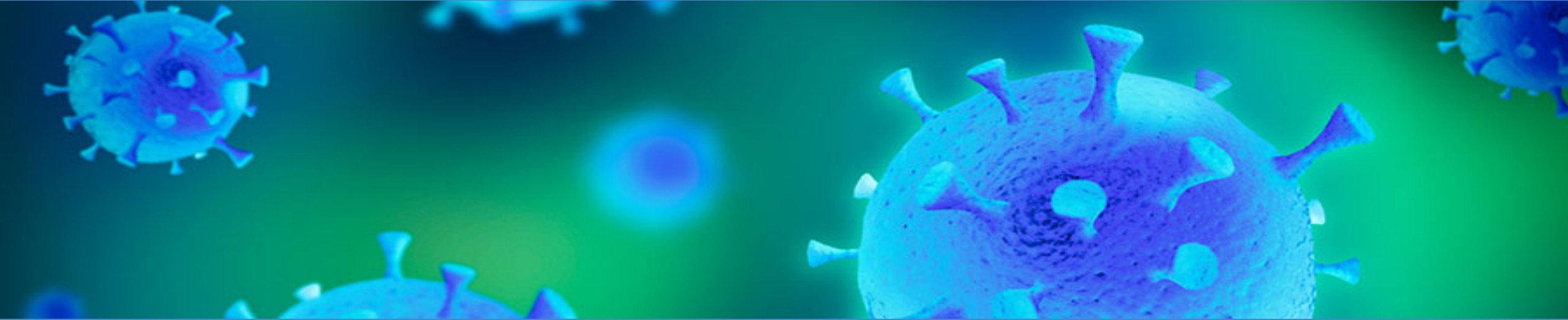


VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



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 8, 2021



Technology Notes

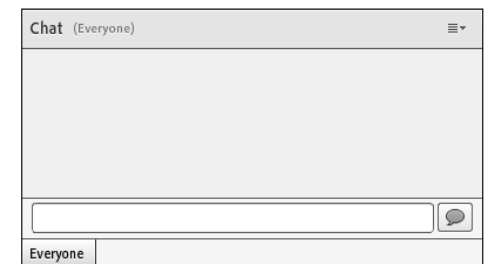
- 1) All participants will be muted upon joining the call.
- 2) If you dialed in or out, **unmute by pressing #6** to ask a question (and press *6 to mute).
If you are having audio difficulties and are using your computer speakers, you may wish to dial in:

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

- **War on Poverty Day:** anniversary LBJ's State of the Union address (1964)
 - ▣ SEE: Annie E. Casey Found. KIDS COUNT Data Book: <https://www.aecf.org/resources/2019-kids-count-data-book/>
- *Reminder* – weekly event schedule:
 - ▣ **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: Mon/Wed/Fridays;** Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine Thursday.
 - ▣ **Week of Jan. 18: calls on Monday, Martin Luther King Day, & Friday (NO call Wednesday, 1/20 – Inauguration Day!)**
- Situation, VDH, vaccine updates; Friday media briefing
- Practice Issues; Q & A/Discussion



<https://socialwelfare.library.vcu.edu/eras/war-poverty-1964/>

[Please note: the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve very rapidly – so the information we're providing today may change quickly]

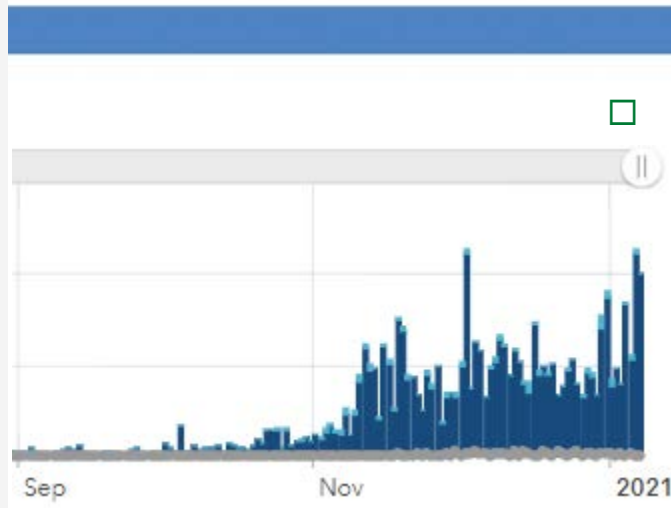
What to Expect this Week



- ❑ The VCHIP “A” Team is BACK!!!
- ❑ Evening emails will continue – please let us know if you are not receiving these!
- ❑ Call recordings and documents will be posted to our web site: https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_co_vid-19_updates
- ❑ We continue to monitor the CHAMP mailbox.
- ❑ Currently planning on holding a call on 1/18/21 (**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**) but ***NO call January 20*** – celebrate the Inauguration!

Situation update

New Cases	202
8,619 Total	
Currently Hospitalized	29
Hospitalized In ICU	8
Hospitalized Under Investigation	6
Percent Positive 7-day Avg.	2.9%
People Tested	275,015
Total Tests	743,851
Recovered	5,778
67% of Cases	
Deaths	156
1.8% of Cases	
Travelers Monitored	319
Contacts Monitored	209
People Completed Monitoring	11,940
Last Updated: 1/8/2021, 10:43:01 AM	



VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths

- U.S. 21.6 million+ cases; **365,495 deaths**
 - <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-us-cases.html> (updated 1/8/21)
 - 1/7/21: **280,292 new cases; 4,112 d.; 132.370 hosp.**
 - **Deadliest day in the U.S. in the history of pandemic**
 - Past week: average 237,645 cases/day (increase of 15% from average 2 weeks earlier)
 - **1.9 million+ deaths worldwide** (88.2 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>

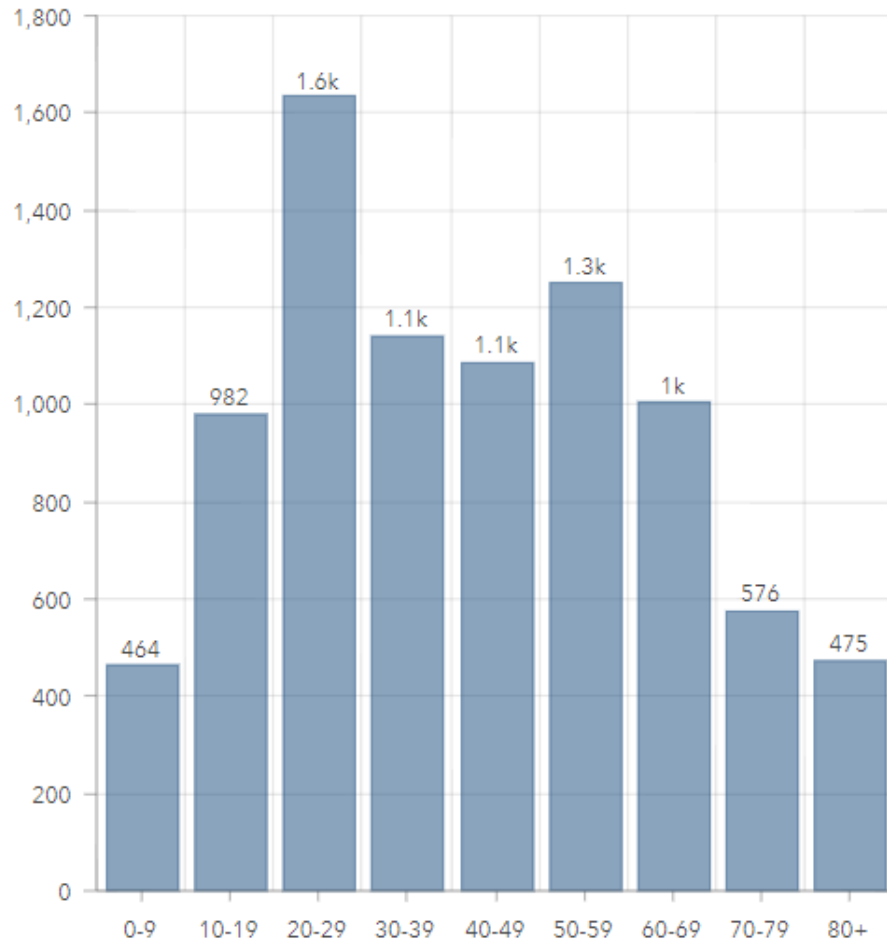
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/current-activity/vermont-dashboard>

January 8, 2021

5

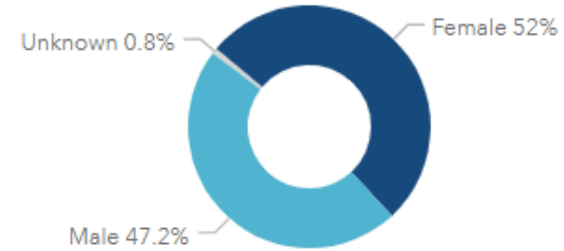
Situation update

Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

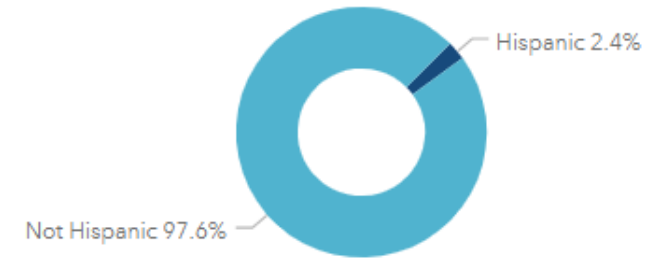


Case Demographics

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 (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 **1/8/21**: 277 total cases; 4 cases reported in preceding 7 days.

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

January 3, 2021

Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

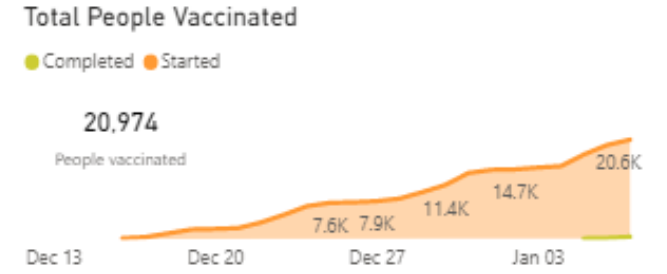
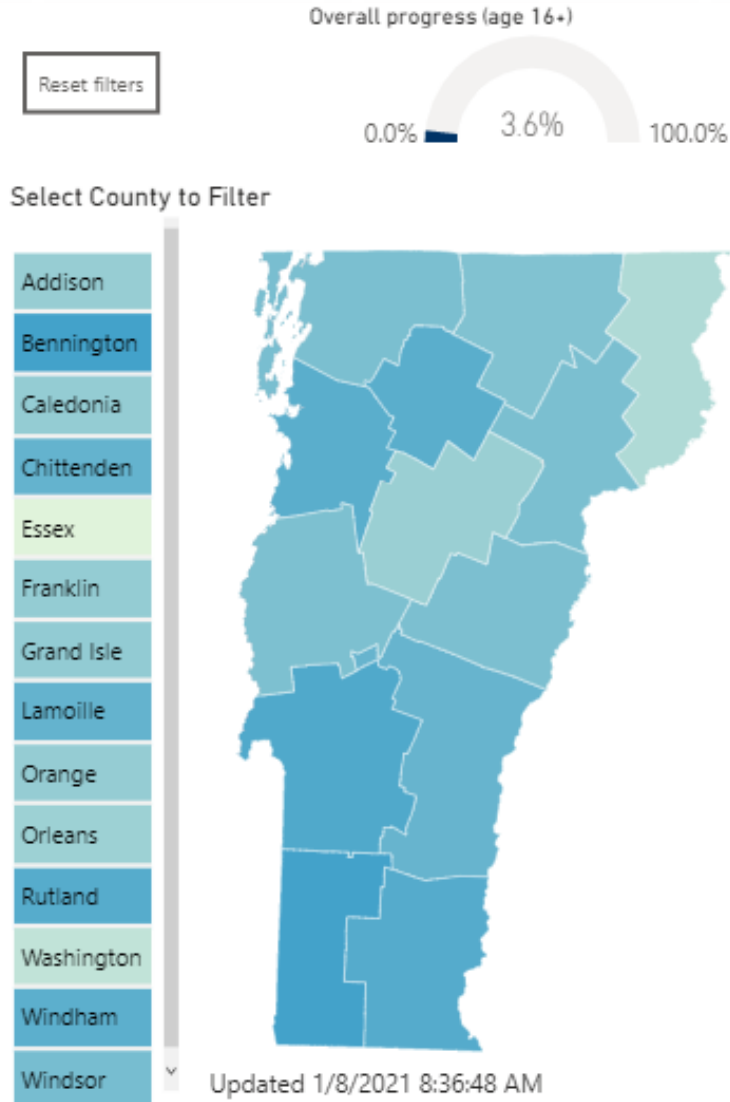
Learning Community	Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days	Total Cases
Schools with less than 25 students are reported in the "Total for all Suppressed Schools" row at the end of the table.		
TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS	7	275

- VT College & University dashboards:

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

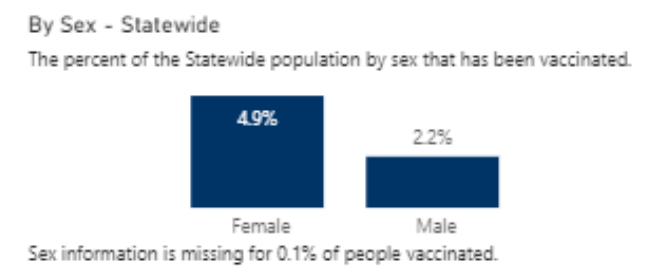
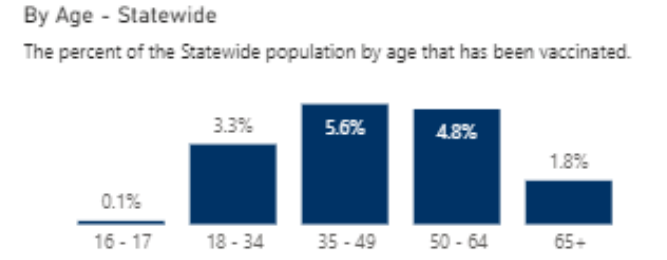
VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard

- Updated Tues/Friday (this screen shot posted after today's call)
- 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>



Show rates by Race/Ethnicity

Show rates by Age/Sex



VT Vaccine Implementation Advisory Committee

- Meeting today – agenda:
 - ▣ Current implementation update
 - ▣ Outreach plans to advance health equity
 - ▣ Discussion of high-risk conditions
 - ▣ Next steps
- We are following up on questions from yesterday's VMS call re: vaccine distribution
- Anticipate update from VDH Immunization Program on our upcoming Monday call (1/11/21)

MMWR: Report from VDH

- Assessment of Day-7 Postexposure Testing of Asymptomatic Contacts of COVID-19 Patients to Evaluate Early Release from Quarantine — Vermont, May–November 2020 (January 8, 2021 / 70(1);12–13)
 - Amanda Jones, MPH; Veronica Fialkowski, MPH; Lauren Prinzing, MPH; Jeffrey Trites, MS; Patsy Kelso, PhD; Mark Levine, MD
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/pdfs/mm7001a3-H.pdf>
- Reflects data collected after VDH policy change (May) shortening quarantine for to 7d. If asymptomatic w/negative PCR test.
- “Policy effective” & did not result in transmission SARS-CoV-2; only 3% (34/977) tested positive **on** day 7. Supports recent CDC updated quarantine guidance (shorten quarantine) & identifies some asymptomatic patients earlier in course of illness.

MMWR: Vaccine Adverse Events

- *Early Release (1/6/21): Allergic Reactions Including Anaphylaxis After Receipt of the First Dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine — United States, December 14–23, 2020*
 - CDC COVID-19 Response Team; Food and Drug Administration
- *What is added by this report?* From VAERS(12/14-23/20): **21 cases of anaphylaxis** after administration of a reported 1,893,360 first doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine (**11.1 cases per million doses**); 71% of these occurred within 15 minutes of vaccination.
- *What are the implications for public health practice?* Vaccine sites should adhere to CDC guidance, including screening for contraind./precautions; be prepared to manage anaphylaxis; follow observation periods, etc.

COVID-19 Vaccine: 2nd doses being administered

- Dr. Rebecca Bell: consider preparing to provide appropriate guidance to pts. re: adverse effect expectations, esp. post-2nd dose.



Becca Bell

December 19, 2020 at 6:06 PM · 🌐



There may be no better advocates for prevention than ICU workers. We see the bad stuff, and we desperately want to protect others from experiencing the suffering we've seen. Covid-19 is a bad one, and the fact that we have safe and effective vaccines makes us giddy with joy and gratitude and relief. Honestly, it's the same mix of emotions I feel when my own children receive their routine childhood immunizations. I cried with gratitude when my babies got their first round of i... See More

👍❤️👤 263

32 Comments 22 Shares

(National) AAP Updates

- **AAP COVID-19 Town Hall series** resumes Thursday, 1/7/21, 8 pm Eastern:
 - ▣ Topic announced today: **COVID-19 and Safe Return to School Q & A**
- Revised COVID-19 interim guidance: **Safe Schools; Supporting the Emotional and Behavioral Health Needs of Children/Adolescents/Families.**
- (12/23/20): latest (7th ed.) AAP **COVID-19 Response Advocacy Report**
 - ▣ <https://downloads.aap.org/DOFA/COVID-19%20Advocacy%20Report%207.0.pdf>
- AAP News (12/29/20): **COVID-19 cases in children surpass 2 million**
 - ▣ <https://www.aappublications.org/news/2020/12/29/covid-2million-children-122920>
 - ▣ AAP (& CHA) **Children and COVID-19: State-Level Data Report**
<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/children-and-covid-19-state-level-data-report/>

In the News

- E. U. drug regulator approved Moderna vaccine
- Another new variant (S. Africa): 501Y.V2 (in addition to B117)
- B117 now identified in 37 countries (incl. U.S.)
 - ▣ Many countries have issued travel restrictions on planes from the UK.
- Unclear if 501Y.V2 poses more serious a threat: different mutations from B117.
 - ▣ John Bell (Prof. of Medicine/Oxford University): “both B117 and 501Y.V2 have different mutations...the mutations associated with the South African form are really pretty substantial changes in the structure of the (virus’ spike) protein.”
- WHO says for now 501Y.V2 does not seem to be associated with worse symptoms or outcomes; has been reported in 4 other countries.

In Case You Missed It . . .

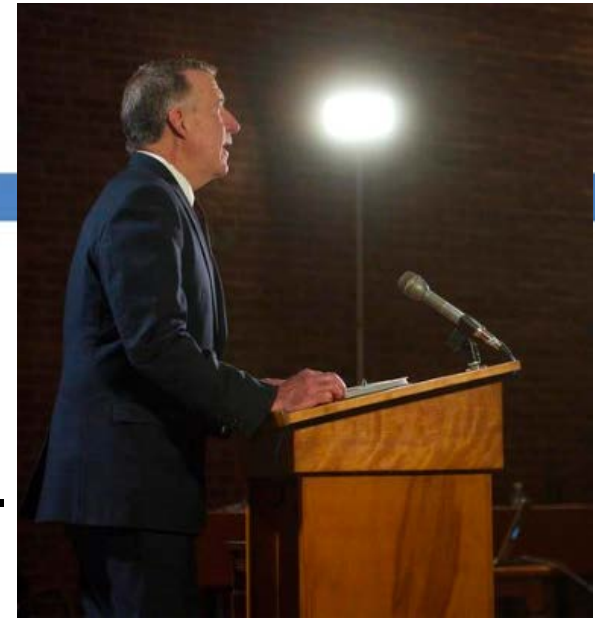
- VPR Podcast: *But Why?* (*thank you, Becca Bell*)
 - ▣ Hopes And Dreams For 2021 From Kids Around The World (1/1/21)
 - ▣ <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/474377890/but-why-a-podcast-for-curious-kids>
- OB Grand Rounds – Tuesdays, 7:30 – 8:30 (*thank you, Melissa Kaufold*)
 - ▣ Vermont Plan of Safe Care 2.0: Updates and Tools to Improve Communication (**Michelle Shepard, MD PhD**; 1/12/21)
 - ▣ Provider Bias and Cultural Humility (1/19/21)
 - ▣ Patient and Family Centered Care (1/26/21)
- KidSafe Collaborative Legislative Forum held virtually on Monday, January 25 from 9:30-11:00

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.
- 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.
 - 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

Governor Phil Scott State of the State

- Virtual – 1/7/21
- Highlighted investments in public health, economic relief, housing, & more over course of the pandemic.
- “That stubborn sense of duty is in the heart of every Vermonter, deep rooted in who we are”: doctors, nurses & 1st responders; in childcare providers who’ve stepped...to support parents working on the frontline; grocery & hardware store clerks; students who transitioned to remote learning, school staff and bus drivers, teachers learning to educate online then stepping up to get kids back into classrooms.



Governor Phil Scott State of the State (cont'd.)

- “We have a lot of work to do to help every child recover from the learning opportunities that were lost. So, I’ve asked the Agency of Education, the Department of Health—working closely with school districts, teachers and **pediatricians—to develop a plan to safely get every child in every district back into the classroom full-time before the end of the school year, and hopefully sometime in April.**
- The fact is: We have some of the best conditions in the world to begin this work. For our children and their future, we must reestablish full in-person instruction, routines and relationships as soon as possible.
- Looking further ahead, **we need to do more to give every child access to an equal education.”**

Friday Media Briefing (1/8/21)



AHS Secretary Mike Smith:

- Governor Scott not present: “needs this time to address work postponed due to yesterday’s commitments.”
- As of last night, have vaccinated 21K Vermonters. VT 2nd in U.S. for rate of doses distributed/100K population.
- Need to keep accelerating the pace: have added ~4500 1st responders to Phase 1a
- Expect to move to “phase 2” VTers 75+ yo (49K); primary objective w/age grouping = **save lives** (most VT d. in ≥ 65 yo). Then 70+, 65+
- Positive tests from 5 VT correctional facilities – response in progress.

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



AOE Secretary Dan French

- Most schools reopened under hybrid model post-holiday.
- Draft planning template for educational recovery work
 - Focus on MH & well-being; reengagement/truancy; academic success & achievement. Anticipate finalize planning framework by end Jan.; each District to submit recovery plan – support resource deployment.
- Goal: mitigating **educational** impact – more in-person instruction & contact as conditions improve. ***Expect nearly full IP after April vacation.***
- Funding from recent relief funds – VT expects 167m. for education: 34m. for higher ed. & 133m. for K-12 (thank-you to VT Cong. delegation)
 - K-12 thru existing elem/secondary (127m.) relief fund & Gov's fund 6.2m

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- ❑ Syndromic surveillance confirmatory for both COVID-19 7 influenza
- ❑ LTCF list: some new cases, but these are not the major proportion at this time.
- ❑ At any time, 200+ situations, ~40 outbreaks – but we don't report on all unless significant attention.
- ❑ Addison Co. – Christmas weekend (3) church services [Victory Baptist, Vergennes, per WCAX TV]; multiple households gathered w/much transmission among attendees = 80 current total.
- ❑ Some current #s likely result of holidays

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- ❑ Ski resort – 9 cases among ski areas; majority = employees.
- ❑ Gathering: contact tracers have identified 6 gatherings w/potential for further spread: e.g., multiple families gathering together at a large birthday party (and some similar to Halloween).
- ❑ Have NOT found related to **allowable** gatherings (but still a little too early to see impact of New Year's Eve gatherings).
- ❑ Monitoring for impact from “VTERS who returned after attending tragic situation in Washington, DC” – please don't travel; get tested if you do.
- ❑ Anticipate U.S. situation to get worse this month – more virus in VT communities & more potential for spread; please cont. mitigation strategies.

Friday Media Briefing (cont'd.)



VDH Commissioner Levine

- ❑ States reporting new variant (B117) as of yesterday: CA, CT, CO, FL, GA, NY, PA, TX; some report relevant travel but others without.
- ❑ Pfizer report: vaccine seems to be effective against new variant (UK & Saudi Arabia)
- ❑ Dr. Birx: there may be a fall/winter strain prevalent throughout the U.S. – but no sequencing data reported yet; could drive incr. asymptomatic transmission/hosps.; reversal of declining case cts.
- ❑ CDC/MMWR report on allergic rxns (esp. life-threatening anaph.) total 21 cases after almost 2m. doses admin. (11 cases/million). Most w/in std. 15-minute waiting period in people w/history of allergic reactions.

Practice Issues

Friday Potpourri



Topics We Are Following

- Pregnancy, Breastfeeding, and Caring for Newborns (updated 12/28/20)
 - ▣ **Based on what we know at this time, pregnant people are at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 & death**, compared to non-pregnant people. Additionally, pregnant people with COVID-19 might be at increased risk for other adverse outcomes, such as preterm birth (delivering the baby earlier than 37 weeks).
 - ▣ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/pregnancy-breastfeeding.html>
- **VT Crisis Standards of Care** – any interest in a presentation?
- **Summer camp, 2021** – expect update late Jan./early Feb.

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.

In Case You Missed It/Coming Attraction



- **VMS Panel (12/22/20): 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*
 - ▣ <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
- 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 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 11 2021 – 12:15-12:45***
- Generally back to **Monday/Wednesday/Friday** schedule
- 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=VkVuNTJlZFQ2R3diSVdqdJ2ZG4yQT09>
 - ▣ Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684
- One tap mobile - +1 646 876 9923,,86726253105#,,,,0#,,540684#