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
March 17, 2021
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.
Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

Reminder – weekly event schedule:
- **VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls:** M/W/F (special guests 3/19); Gov. Media Briefings Tues/Fri; VMS call with VDH Comm. Levine Thursday
- **Situation, VDH, federal, AAP Updates; Tuesday Media Briefing**
- **Practice Issues:** *Wednesday Pot O’ Gold*
- **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

- U.S. 29.5 million+ cases; 536,472 deaths
  - 3/16/21: 54,440 new cases; 1,245 d.; 40,052 hosp.
  - Past week: average 54,954 cases/day (decrease of 16% from average 2 weeks earlier)
  - 2.6 million+ deaths worldwide; 120.7 million+ cases

- VDH Weekly Data Summary (3/12/21)
  - Weekly Spotlight Topic – Workplace Outbreaks – focus on outbreaks in workplace settings (not incl. health care, inst./LTCF, education, & child care centers); “# rel. small.”

**VT New Cases, Probables, Deaths**

- New Cases: 52
- Currently Hospitalized: 24
- Hospitalized In ICU: 3
- Hospitalized Under Investigation: 6
- Percent Positive 7-day Avg.: 1.3%
- People Tested: 343,648
- Total Tests: 1,203,609
- Recovered: 14,408 (84.2% of Cases)
- Deaths: 217 (1.3% of Cases)

Last Updated: 3/17/2021, 10:45:31 AM

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

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

### Cases in Vermont K-12 Learning Communities While Infectious

**March 14, 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Community</th>
<th>Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days</th>
<th>Total Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>760</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**March 10, 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Community</th>
<th>Cases Reported In the Past 7 Days</th>
<th>Total Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL FOR ALL SCHOOLS</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>728</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### VT College & University dashboards:

- **UVM update**: effective March 1, all students to be tested **2X/week** (3d. In between; reeval 3/13)
- Violations of Green and Gold Promise, except for 1\textsuperscript{st} missed test, to be reviewed for suspension in accordance with UVM policy (on-campus res. students will have 48 hours from a final conduct decision of suspension to vacate their residential hall and leave campus); thru 3/31 for now.
UVM Fall 2021 Plans

- Planning for a **full on-campus fall 2021 semester** (fall courses to be released)
- Also preparing contingency plans – adjust to VT health and safety GLs as nec.
  - May require schedule modification; plans designed to minimize impact of any changes (goal: majority of instruction still delivered in person).
  - Strongly encourage students w/concerns to discuss options w/academic advisor
  - Will offer select courses in online & hybrid formats (incl. ~25% increase in on-line/hybrid)
  - Anticipate no pre-arrival testing; may do initial testing early in sem.; subject to change.
- Vaccine distribution plans vary by state; enc. every student to be vaccinated
- Will observe Vermont quarantine/travel guidance (expect ongoing changes)
- Also: working with the State of Vermont on plans for this year’s **Commencement**. Public health regulations may require limiting in-person attendance to graduates only, but conversations are underway.

March 17, 2021
Week of March 7; updated 3/17/21
Daily updates Tuesday thru Saturday

- Data = counts reported by end previous day; subject to change.

**NOTE (2/17/21):** to align w/CDC reporting, # of doses rec’d. for VA & VNG were removed from # doses rec’d.; accounted for ~8,300 doses.
Daily updates Tuesday thru Saturday

Data = counts reported by end previous day; subject to change.

https://www.healthvermont.gov/covid-19/vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-dashboard

NOTE (2/17/21): to align w/CDC reporting, # of doses rec’d. for VA & VNG were removed from # doses rec’d.; accounted for ~8,300 doses.
GETTING THE COVID-19 VACCINE

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT!

You can also get an appointment at Kinney Drugs or Walgreens.

People 65 years or older with high-risk conditions can make appointments. Use the blue "MAKE AN APPOINTMENT" button above, call or use the Kinney Drugs link. Do not go through Walgreens. See the list of conditions.

People 65 years and older and people who work in the public safety system can make appointments.

School staff and child care workers can make an appointment AFTER being contacted by school leadership or by the Department for Children and Families, who will provide a code. The Agency of Education and Department for Children and Families are working as quickly as possible!

There are enough appointments for everyone who is eligible. Appointments are required. Clinics cannot accept walk-ins.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

1. Create an account (anyone can do this anytime!)
   You may already have an account if you were tested for COVID-19 at a Health Department site.

2. Make an appointment when you are eligible to get the vaccine.

Can't make an appointment online or need help with an online appointment? Contact our call center at 855-722-7878.

Appointments from 3/17/21 – 5/25/21

- **188,975 total appointments clinics** (health care, VDH (Local/District Health Office POD, and some pharmacies – e.g., Costco, Walmart)

- **Online (preferred) for most** and **phone** appointment scheduling:
  - 1-855-722-7878
  - *If you need to speak with someone in a language other than English, call this number, and then press 1.*

- **Call Center Hours:**
  - Monday-Friday, 8:15 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
  - Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
From the CDC Vaccine Tracker

Total Doses Administered Reported to the CDC by State/Territory and for Select Federal Entities per 100,000 of the Total Population

Daily Change in Number of COVID-19 Vaccinations in the United States Reported to CDC

7-Day moving average


https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations

March 17, 2021
From the CDC: U.S. COVID-19 Cases Caused by Variants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variant</th>
<th>Reported Cases in US</th>
<th>Number of Jurisdictions Reporting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.1.1.7</td>
<td>4686</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.1.351</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.1</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cases of Variants of Concern in the United States*†


March 17, 2021
Presentations

Seeking the **Youth Voice** in COVID Recovery

- **March 15, 2021:** Sen. Sanders *virtual student Town Hall*
  - Focus on how students have “experienced social, emotional and mental health challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic”
  - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCD_DaKNac0Ta-2PeHuoQ1uA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCD_DaKNac0Ta-2PeHuoQ1uA)

- **Governor Scott Virtual Youth Summit:** Young People in the Time of COVID-19 – What Youth Need to Succeed and Thrive
  - **March 25, 2021:** 1 – 2 p.m.

- **VTDigger – FAQ Live:** send Covid-19 questions re: variants & vaccines
  - Wednesday, **March 17 at 5:30 p.m.** featuring Dr. Jan K. Carney, LCOM UVM
Summer 2021 programs and operational details

Hello! Vermont Afterschool is excited to be partnering with key state partners to expand summer program opportunities for children and youth. While there are many benefits to enrichment opportunities year round, we know that there are academic, social, and emotional needs of our children coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic which make this summer and the coming year especially crucial. To support getting as many kids into summer programs and enrichment activities as possible, we are hoping to collect the information you have available on your program’s 2021 summer plans. With your permission, we will use the information you provide to help populate a searchable resource page for families, which the Governor’s Office and other state and local partners will be promoting. Additionally, this information will help us identify the best ways to support the field in creating supportive and safe summer spaces.

After you submit your form, you will receive an email with your responses and a link to go back and edit responses if any plans should change.

Should you have questions about this effort, please contact info@vermontafterschool.org
Summer Learning Programs 2021

From Vermont Afterschool

- **Essential for COVID-19 Recovery**
  - Close the achievement gap
  - Address mental health by focusing on social emotional learning
  - Ensure child safety by offering a safe place for children & youth during 10 weeks of summer break
  - Support nutrition by feeding children healthy snacks & meals
  - Promote wellness by getting youth outside & doing fun screen-free activities.

- **Addressing inequities** – existing gaps likely to grow w/families experiencing job loss and other fallout from the pandemic.
What Students Need This Summer:

- Students need to feel safe and supported to reengage in learning and recover from this period of loss and isolation. This summer, kids of all ages need new ways and places to learn.

- Students need not only academic support, but also social and emotional support. They need help sustaining and rebuilding relationships, talking about their experiences and emotions, developing as leaders and agents of change, and re-engaging with their interests.

- They need a summer that includes time with friends and mentors, opportunities for creative enrichment and expression, healthy meals, daily physical activity, and fun projects that allow them to explore and learn without stress.
Happening Now

- Big Change Roundup: bigchangeroundup.org
  - Largest fundraiser for the UVMCH; funds raised support patients and families
- Please help promote personally & through your practices/ orgs.
- **Coming THIS weekend**: visit a Contactless Drive-thru Collection
  - **Saturday, March 20, 11am-1pm**: Clark's Truck Center 4365 NY-22, Plattsburgh, NY
  - **Sunday, March 21, 11am-1pm**: University Mall 155 Dorset Street, South Burlington, VT
- 3/26/2021: Big Change Roundup Final Total Announcement
  (counted off air/off-site)
AHS Secretary Mike Smith (Gov. on White House call)

- Effects of COVID-19 upon all Vermonters; vaccine progress:
  - 152,800 vaccinated; 70,100 dose 1; 82,700 both doses
  - 16+: 25,400 have made appointments
  - Teachers, school staff, registered child care – 7K this week through state (awaiting data from federal pharm program – had 5K doses)
  - Essex, Franklin, Orange Co. clinics added this week (state system, Walgreens, CVS, Kinney’s)

- Incarcerated indivs. 18+ w/hi-risk begin vax this wk! (~185)

- CVS Pharm. Barre & M’ville began over weekend. CVS Benn. this WE – more TBD as supply increases.

Tuesday Media Briefing (cont’d.)

Administration Secretary Suzanne Young

- $2.7b. In state aid – 3rd major federal legislation
  - Total ~7.5b since 1st month pandemic
- Some provided through federal agencies & some to state/local
- 1400/adult & ea. dependent; tax exemption for unemployment 2020 (1st 10,200, per person).
- EITC for those w/o children; VT Legislature must align w/VT code
- Incr. federal child tax credit from 2 to 3K (6-17); 3600 for all <6 yo
- Expansion of child & dep care credit to offset costs; VT Legislature
AHS Secretary Suzanne Young

- **Expansion SNAP & school meals 90d. into summer**: increased grants for eligible child care providers
- Rent, mort, util payments, LIHEAP – fed funded/admin by SOV
- Sm bus & non-profits – watch SMA web site & ACCD
- State & local relief provisions: 1.36b – sim to CARES 1.25b.
- Differences: carve out 198m. For cites/town/villages. 19m direct to city of BTV. SOV will disburse remainder to cities/towns/villages. 50% this spring; 50% by 2022.
Modeling – Commissioner Pieciak:

- Impressive # of VTers willing to be vaccinated, esp. older/vulnerable.
  - >85% 75+ started/completed
  - 70-74 >80%
  - 65-69 >50% & nearly doubled this week
- VT as one of oldest states, one of leading in vax % among this pop
- 7-day average now >5K/day; had one day w/>7K (highest day ever)
- LTCFs: only 6 cases last few weeks & 2 active outbreaks.
- College: 59 new cases this wk.
- VT case forecast: ~100/d. short term, lower longer term (esp. April)
- 8 deaths this month
Tuesday Media Briefing (cont’d.)

VDH Commissioner Levine

- Range of cases: one day’s report does not reflect a trend. This has been & is expected to be reality over next several wks.
- Great progress in vax so far – will take some time to see case impact.
- Impt: fewer cases in our older age groups – large portions now vax.
- Expect same benefits for those w/hi-risk cond. & next age bands.
- Vax: no matter what level we record efficacy, greatest benefit = efficacy in prev. serious illness, hosps., deaths.
- Recent study – less likelihood asymptomatic infec: those w/one dose had 56% reduction in pos. PCR; after 2 doses, 80% reduction.
Variant strains: just rec’d more results whole genome sequencing.

4 more B117 pos; total 5 in VT to date. Not unusual.

Look at mask for better fit or dbl mask. Avoid crowds; home when sick.

Variants of concern make v. spread more easily P-to-P – but not impact on serious illness, hosps, deaths in US yet.

Peer-reviewed study from England – 1st indication variant may be more deadly, but “only minimally so”: 64% increased risk of death. But absolute numbers increased from 2.5 to 4.1 deaths/1000 cases.
Governor Phil Scott

- (Based on call): schedule mapped out to meet or exceed President Biden’s goal of all 16+ registered by May 1.
- Depends on supply
- Vaccine increase: 550 doses for VT this week/next.
- Federal pharmacy supply also increasing (250 for VT)
- J & J: total 800 doses for VT next week
- Friday: will announce when next age band 60+ will open.
- “This should allow us to get back to normal by July 4th.”
Practice Issues

Wednesday Pot O’ Gold

March 17, 2021
Updated Documents

Algorithm:

Medical Clearance:

Return-to-Play:
Cardiac Return-to-Play: Community Feedback

- Formatting issues: being revised
- Clarify age application and rationale
  - **VT algorithm:** children $\geq 5$ yo and adolescents partic. in and/or returning to p. activity
  - **AAP language:** All children younger than 12 years may progress back to sports/physical education classes according to their own tolerance. For children and adolescents 12 years and older, a graduated return-to-play protocol can begin once an individual has been cleared by a physician, the minimum amount of time without symptoms of COVID-19 has passed, and the individual does not exhibit cardiorespiratory symptoms when performing normal activities of daily living. The progression should be performed over the course of a 7-day minimum. Consideration for extending the progression should be given to individuals who experienced moderate COVID-19 symptoms, as outlined above.
- Improve linkages between VT and national (AAP, ACC) guidance
- Consider decrease to 2-3 documents (vs. 4)

March 17, 2021
Cardiac Return-to-Play: Community Feedback

- Medical Clearance form – to be completed by Medical Home using shared decision-making with patient and family/caregiver.
- Graduated RTP document – seeking your feedback re: monitoring/signoff
  - Possible revision below:
    Date Graduated Return-To-Play Progression completed: ________________
    Parent/Guardian    Student    School/Sports Personnel (if involved in supporting progression to return-to-play)
    Printed name: ___  Printed name: _____  Printed name: _____
    Signature: ______  Signature: ______  Signature: ______

March 17, 2021

- This guidance is informed by expert opinion and may apply to individuals who participate in any physical activity, organized or not, including but not limited to organized sports and physical education class. Clinical judgment is strongly encouraged in support of a shared decision-making process between health care professional and family. This set of recommendations will be revised as more information becomes available.

- Communication among local teams, including sharing of the Medical Clearance Form and the Graduated Return-to-Play paperwork collection is important. Teams may consist of health professionals, school administrators, school nurses, athletic trainers, parents and athletes. The creation of policies and communication plans will assist in the collection of paperwork and the dissemination of information to teachers, coaches, trainers and school nurses. Continued team-based care between school nurses and pediatric medical homes is encouraged. School nurses should advocate for families of students post-COVID-19 infection to communicate with their medical home before returning to activity.
From the AAP

Coming Soon:

- Updated interim guidance on COVID-19 Testing; PPE; Face Masks (previously cloth face coverings); Telehealth; Family presence; COVID-19 Vaccine; Clarification in Return to Sports

COVID-19 Town Hall Series:

- Thursday, March 18, 8 pm Eastern: COVID-19 Pediatric Clinical Updates
  - Presenters: Drs. Ed Conway (Jacobi Med. Ctr.); Sandy Hong (U. of Iowa COM); Bonnie Maldonado (Stanford; chair AAP COID); Peter Rowe (JHU)
Save the Date: Health Equity Interactive Session

- Program of Northern Vermont Area Health Education Center (AHEC)
- Stacie L. Walton, MD, MPH, clinical/academic pediatrician; medical consultant for HCPs/institutions for >25 years; recently retired from Kaiser Permanente (Diversity Champion)
- Details in tonight’s email

(Thank you, Melissa Kaufold)
Save the Date!

- **What?** Child maltreatment conference
- **Who?** James Metz, MD MPH & other expert speakers
- **When?** April 29, 8 am – 12:15 pm via live stream
- **How?** Register at: [link]

Recognizing and Responding to Child Maltreatment
Promoting Child Abuse Awareness in VT Conference

Thursday, April 29, 2021
8:00am -12:15pm
LIVE STREAM

This conference will help the professional to recognize sentinel injuries, sexual abuse and neglect. Participants will learn about the mental health implications of trauma and abuse and will learn strategies for effective reporting.

James Metz, MD, MPH - Course Director
Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
Division Chief, Child Abuse Medicine
UVM Larner College of Medicine

"Recognizing Sentinel Injuries" and "Child Neglect"
Save the Date: Friday, June 4, 2021

Join us virtually for the 14th Annual Child Psychiatry in Primary Care Conference, featuring faculty from UVM and the community.

Topics this year include:

- Assessing Risks After School Violence Threats
- Mental Health Care Needs in Primary Care
- Child Psychiatry in the Emergency Department
- Integrated Care Forum
- Praising and Overpraising
- Post COVID Mental Health
- Anxiety Disorders
- Motivational Interviewing Techniques
- Social Media Use and Mental Health

Course Director
David C. Rettew, M.D.
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, March 19, 2021 – 12:15 – 12:45 pm
  - Special Guests to celebrate OUR 1-year anniversary!

Generally back to Monday/Wednesday/Friday schedule

Please tune in to VMS call with VDH Commissioner Levine:
  Thursday, March 18, 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#