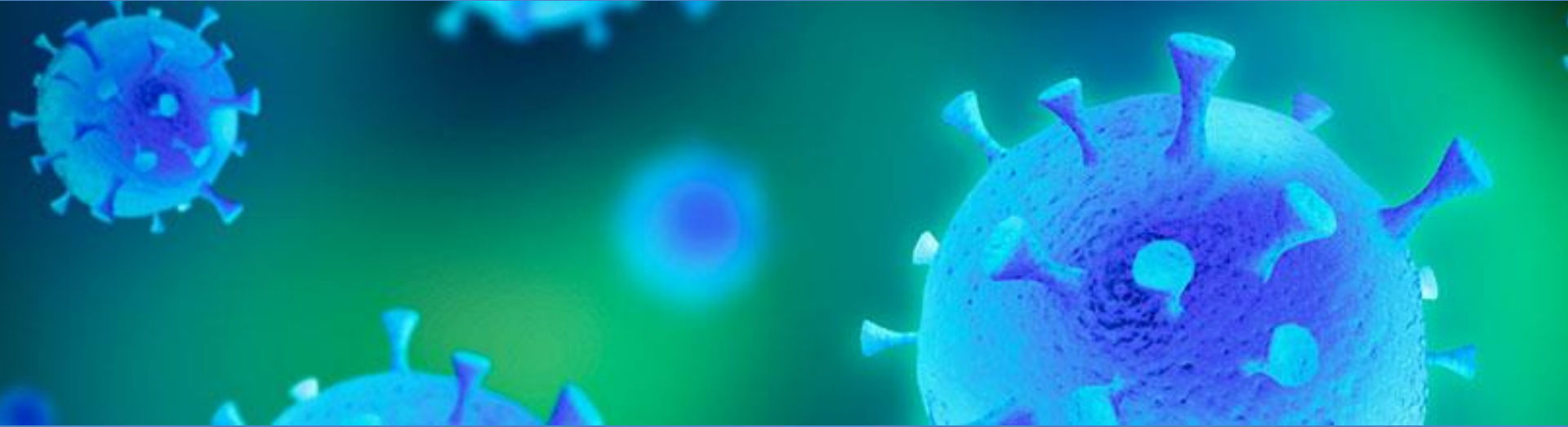# VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES

Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM

Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – Director of Maternal & Child Health, Vermont Department of Health

April 15, 2020

Technology Notes

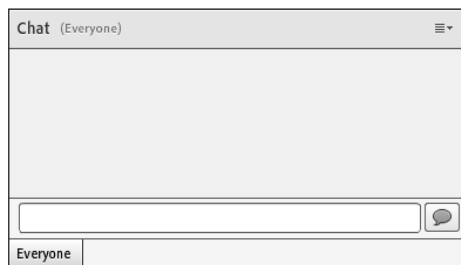1) **All participants will be muted upon joining the call.**

   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 💬 icon or press Enter to send.

Overview

- Situation update
    - Surveillance
    - Testing
- Other VDH Updates
- New resources/presentations
- Practice Issues: payment issues; Medicaid retainer; continued F/U on telehealth/phone care
- Question and Answer

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

Situation update

Total Cases	759
Currently Hospitalized	33
Hospitalized Under Investigation	30
Deaths	30
Total Tests	11,081
People Being Monitored	32
People Completed Monitoring	800

Last Updated (M/DD/YYYY): 4/15/2020, 10:15 EDT

- ☐ 1 additional positive patient at Champlain Valley Expo surge site

- ☐ 11 patients in ICU

- ☐ 10 patients on ventilators

- ☐ Some test results reveal patients w/o medical homes. Consider CHCB, FQHCs for referral (FTF visit is best practice for new patient but not required)

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Situation update (cont'd.)

COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

New and Cumulative Vermont COVID-19 Cases
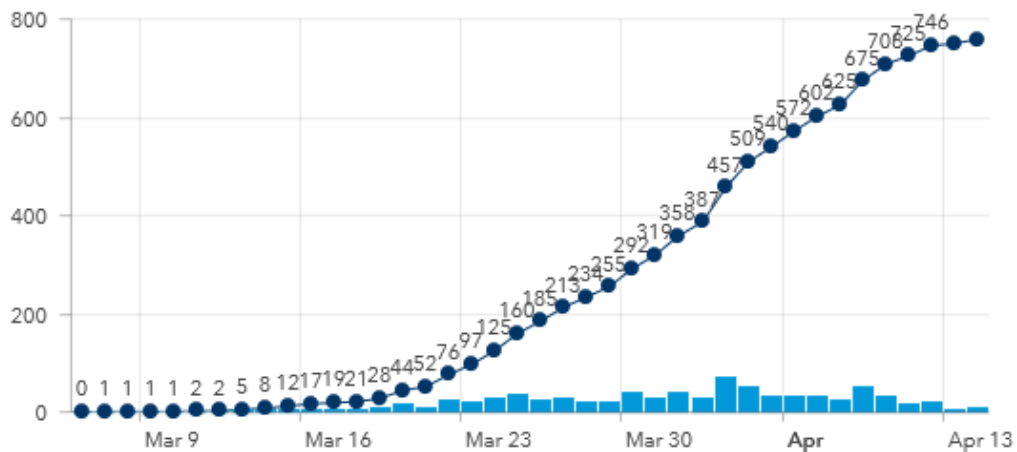
Cases by Date and Age   Cases by Sex

Situation update: Testing

- Public Health Laboratory ran 292 tests yesterday and doing 307 tests today (198 from VT Veterans' Home)

- UVMMC ran 32 rapid tests (45-minute turnaround)

- UVMMC ran 50 additional in-house tests

- 133 tests sent to Broad (MIT)

- 27 tests sent to Mayo (but moving away from Mayo due to transport issues)

- Test per capita **variability by Hospital Service Area** (SEE map next slide)

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Tests by Hospital Service Area

COVID-19 Per Capita Tests by Hospital Service Area
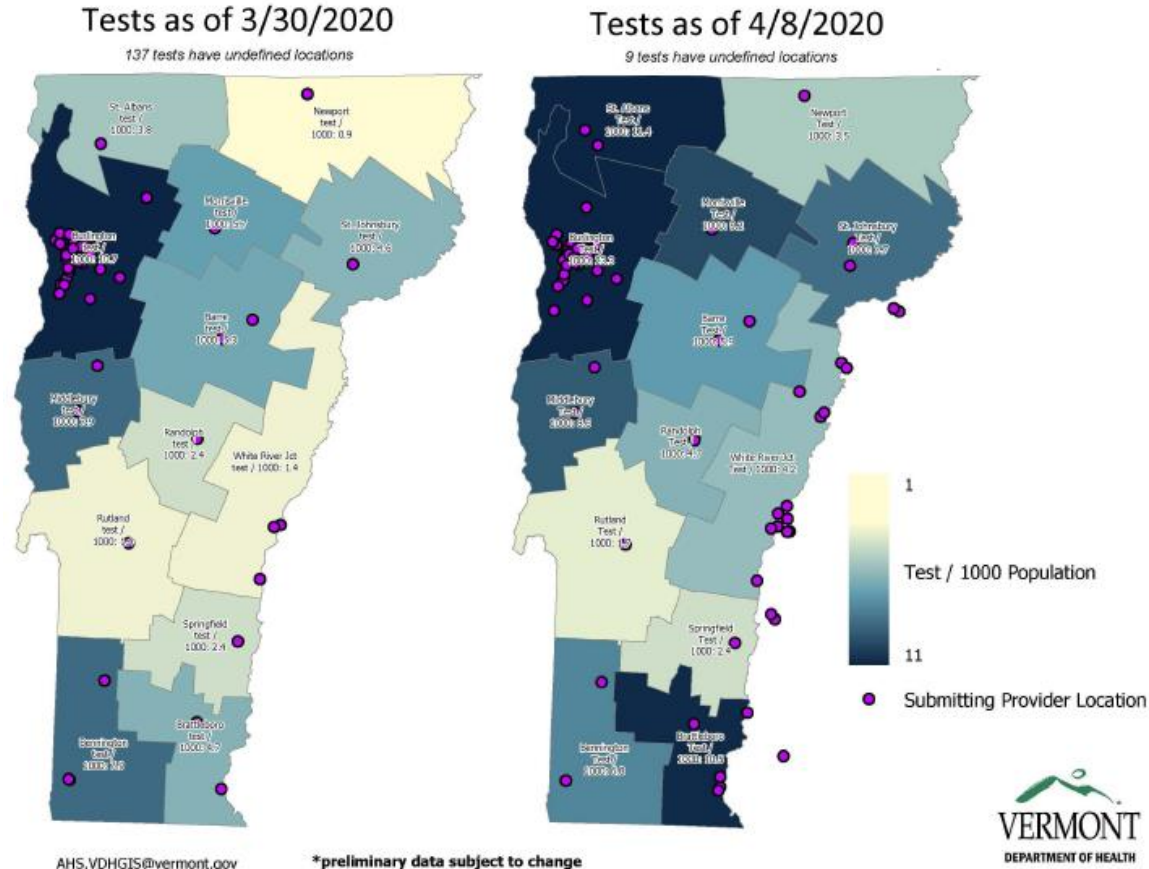
Includes tests from offices to private labs, from hospitals/other testing centers.
Based on address of collection site.

Other VDH Updates (Commissioner Levine)

- Serology Testing Work Group under way (anticipate report by week's end) – priority this week.

  - Speculation that most people have NOT seen virus. Initial goal was to protect the healthcare system; next issue will be protecting vulnerable people from illness through increased testing and population health strategies, vs. health care strategies.

- Most recent data suggests entering plateau phase; most pos. in facilities (large/modest outbreaks). Surge predictions???

- 28 deaths (4/14/20) higher per capita than many states (but not comparable to NY, CA, LA)

- Doubling rate is 9-11-12 days

- PPE picture is favorable (please resubmit requests if still awaiting supply).

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New Resources/Presentations

- CHAMP Network MOC Project call 4/14/20 – Managing ADHD in the home to support school engagement: Strategies PCP's can offer parents/caregivers

- Today's Pediatric Grand Rounds – COVID-19 Town Hall: The Non-Infectious Complications of This Virus

- Today: Children and Young Adults' Mental Health During the Coronavirus (UVM Continuing Education – for parents, caregivers, community)

- **We will disseminate presentations/links**

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Practice Issues

Payment Updates, Medicaid Retainer Policy

Payment Updates

- Pediatrician colleague received **Medicaid** payment for wellness codes 99392 – 99394.
  - Used usual modifiers (as if an in-office visit) with POS of 2 for dates of service in April.
  - Medicaid had denied late March claim dates – plans to resubmit
  - We believe policy was supposed to be active as of 3/23/20.
- Ongoing discussion re: WCC under 2 y.o. (esp. with BCBSVT)

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COVID-19 Vermont Medicaid Retainer

- Examples of eligible organizations: primary care, FQHCs, RHCs, HHAs, Adult Day, ambulance svcs., dental, licensed mental health clinicians, ABA

- Application: financial info, narrative re: practice changes, payer mix, anticipated revenue loss

- Application period: 3/27/20 – **4/21/20**

- Weekly review by Agency of Human Services team

- Providers must continue to serve Medicaid population throughout State of Emergency

- "Funding may be subject to recoupment"

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Current Status

- Practice Uptake
  - 39 applications total
  - 13 approved for total of 829K to be deposited electronically to usual Medicaid payment account
  - Second review cycle this week (week of 4/13/20)
- Practice type distribution (1st review cycle): pediatric, naturopathic, specialty, residential care, adult day, recovery (mostly rural)

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Issue of Concern & Response

- Retainer is one of several provider financial relief mechanisms pursued by AHS as part of multi-phased plan based upon potential (emergency) funding mechanisms

- Thus, remains unclear whether retainer = grant or loan that will require payback. Practices may NOT be applying due to this uncertainty.

- Health care coalition will send letter noting anticipated ongoing significant adverse impact on pediatric practices even as we move into "recovery phase"

- https://dvha.vermont.gov/covid-19

Upcoming topics

- ☐ Continue to follow telehealth, telephone coverage, other financial relief.

- ☐ Larner College of Medicine student experience

- ☐ UVM Children's Hospital pediatric resident experience

- ☐ Serology Testing Work Group Report

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Questions/Discussion

- Q & A Goal: monitor/respond in real time – record/ disseminate later as needed (and/or revisit next day).

- **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: ***Thursday, April 16, 12:15-12:45*** (same webinar/call information – invitation to follow)

- Please tune in to VMS call with Commissioner Levine:

  Tuesday, April 21, 12:15-12:45

  Phone: 1-802-552-8456

  Conference ID: 993815551

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