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.

![Chat box](image-url)
Overview

- Taking a moment to honor lives lost to COVID-19
  - Honoring Patricia Berry
    - “No Patricia, no VCHIP.” (Mort Wasserman)

- Situation update
  - Surveillance
  - VDH/Other Updates

- Practice Issues: COVID-19 in Vermont – Pulse Oximetry Project (Jennifer Read, MD MS MPH DTM&H)

- 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

- Some discrepancy between these total test numbers and other sources of this data

As of May 16, the total testing numbers decreased by about 1,000 due to a change in reporting data. The “total tests” number no longer includes serology tests (also known as antibody tests) that were being reported by some labs. The “total test” number now only reflects people who were tested for a current COVID-19 infection.

Reminder: “Total People Recovered” based on the number of confirmed positive cases (VT residents & non-VT residents who tested positive in VT; does not include deaths or patients currently hospitalized).
VDH Updates

- **Corrected** HAN: Guidance on N95 Respirator Sterilization in Your Region (May 26, 2020)
  - Brattleboro Memorial Hospital contact info & **correct** name North Country Hospital

- **NEW** HAN: Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) Associated with Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (May 27, 2020)

- Temperature screening during extreme heat:
  - *(From Alex Bannach, MD): parents with positive temperature at the door (but no exposure, no illness, presumably from the heat?). They are admitted through my "sick door," intake by phone & then to "sick room."
  - Some literature support for alignment between rectal & temp. artery scan
Please share:

- **Who**: DK & a classmate from the Big Picture Program, South Burlington High School
- **What**: virtual art gallery of VT students' experiences with COVID-19
- **When**: submission accepted until **June 5th**
- **Where**: view the site by going to tiny.cc/74d1nz “A Collection of Capturings.” Pls send submissions to: collectionofcapturings@gmail.com
- **AND**, please share this information with anyone who might be interested!

*Thank you, Monica Fiorenza!*

May 28, 2020
Update: Mother-Baby Care

- UVM MC Birthing Center Policies (5/15/20)

**Birthing Center Policies During COVID-19**

Our goal throughout your birth and stay is to keep you and your baby safe. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have altered some of our practices and policies. While our policies will almost certainly evolve over time, we have outlined our current plan below. We hope you can see that our commitment to the safety and wellbeing of our community is reflected within these guidelines. If you have any further questions, please contact your OB provider directly.

**PRIOR TO ARRIVAL**
We communicate regularly with the obstetric providers in the community. Please ask your provider about specific concerns you might have as you prepare for delivery. There are some tests we may begin in your obstetric care provider’s office in the future or at another mutually agreed upon location.

**WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE HOSPITAL**
When you enter the hospital you will have your temperature taken and be asked some screening questions. If you do not already have masks, you and your support person will be provided with them and asked to keep the masks on as much as possible while in the hospital. Health care providers will also remain masked during your care. These masks prevent respiratory droplets from entering the air and can reduce the risk of virus transmission.

**WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT LABOR AND DELIVERY**
Before you and your support person come in or when you arrive, you will be asked questions in order to assess your risk of COVID-19. This is done in order to protect you, our staff and our other patients. Questions may include:
- How are you feeling?
Tomorrow: Requesting Your Assistance!

- Office of Professional Regulation (OPR) and VDH seeking feedback, via VMS/AAP/AAFP, re: adding language to this year’s (OPR) bill to permit pharmacists to administer COVID vaccine when available.
  - Bill is moving now in Senate & may be taken up in House.
  - This year’s bill already contained language to allow pharmacists to administer influenza vaccine for ≥ 12 y.o.
  - Practice would be guided by protocols written by VDH.
  - Please join tomorrow’s call to discuss – or email VCHIP CHAMP mailbox with your thoughts.
Get Out the Vote! (GOTV)

- **American Academy of Pediatrics national election**
  - **What:** elect the next President-elect of the AAP (**Mobeen Rathore**, MD FAAP/FL; **Moira Szilagyi**, MD PhD FAAP/CA) [NOTE: no other District I elections this cycle]
  - **When:** May 26 – June 9, 2020. The elected leaders will take office on January 1, 2021.
  - **Where:** [https://www.aap.org/vote](https://www.aap.org/vote)

- Vermont election filing deadline: May 28, 2020
- Vermont Primary: August 11, 2020
- General Election: November 3, 2020
COVID-19 in Vermont: VDH Pulse Oximetry Project

Jennifer Read, MD MS MPH
COVID-19 in Vermont: Pulse Oximetry Project

Jennifer S. Read, MD, MS, MPH, DTM&H
Infectious Disease Epidemiology/VDH
Clinical Professor of Pediatrics/UVM-MC
TO: Vermont Health Care Providers and Health Care Facilities
FROM: Jennifer S. Read, MD, Medical Epidemiologist

Clinical Overview of Deaths Among Vermont Residents
Testing Positive for SARS-CoV-2 Through April 14, 2020
HAN dated April 21, 2020: Deaths in Vermont among COVID-19 Cases through April 14, 2020

• **Example 1:** History of obstructive sleep apnea and former smoker with diabetes mellitus type 2 (known contact with COVID-19 case): *fell at home*, evaluated in the emergency room (normal head/cervical spine CT), discharged to home (against medical advice); returned to emergency room with *altered mental status, lethargy, somnolence, confusion*

• **Example 2:** Poorly controlled diabetes mellitus type 2, hyperlipidemia, atherosclerosis, hypertension (known contact with COVID-19 case): *diarrhea, night sweats, cough, syncopal episodes* (died at home)
HAN dated April 21, 2020: Deaths in Vermont among COVID-19 Cases through April 14, 2020

• **Example 3**: Atrial fibrillation, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, arthritis, COPD, gastroesophageal reflux disease, former smoker: weakness, diarrhea, **somnolence**, productive cough

• **Summary**: .... Despite a range of signs and symptoms, all appeared to have a common final clinical pathway of hypoxemic respiratory failure. Of note are the patients with a history of syncopal episodes and/or falls at home prior to hospitalization, in many cases associated with confusion and/or somnolence – likely representing hypoxemia prior to arrival at a medical facility where pulse oximetry was available....
COVID-19 and Silent Hypoxemia

• Significant hypoxemia preceding respiratory distress
• Slow, gradual development of COVID-19 pneumonia, with compensatory respiratory efforts – sufficient to avoid hypercapnia and concomitant sensation of “shortness of breath”
• Upon arrival at medical facility:
  • low oxygen saturation levels (e.g., 75%)
  • abnormal chest x-ray, consistent with pneumonia
  • but no respiratory distress
Pulse Oximetry in Action
Using a Pulse Oximeter to Monitor your COVID-19 Illness

1. Read the manual.
Using a Pulse Oximeter to Monitor your COVID-19 Illness

1. Read the manual.
Using a Pulse Oximeter to Monitor your COVID-19 Illness

2. Use the Pulse Ox three times a day.
Using a Pulse Oximeter to Monitor your COVID-19 Illness

3. Understand the numbers displayed on the device.
Using a Pulse Oximeter to Monitor your COVID-19 Illness

4. Record oxygen saturation values.
Using a Pulse Oximeter to Monitor your COVID-19 Illness

5. Mail the log back to the Health Department.
For Clinicians

REQUESTED ACTIONS:

• Be aware of this new pulse oximetry program for laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases.

• Anticipate contact by COVID-19 patients in your practice/health care system if they develop dyspnea and/or hypoxemia while self-monitoring at home.
Refining guidance re: testing of HCWs in practices
MIS-C (Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children)
Testing: anterior nares & supply chain update
Continue to follow developments in telehealth/telephone coverage
Health care “restart” details
Summer camps/other recreational activities – following emerging guidance
OneCare Vermont all-payer model adjustments
School reopening/reentry; adolescent well care; IZ catch-up (flu)
Considering a New Schedule of COVID-19 Update Calls

- 3 (vs.) 4 days/week?
- If yes to above, which days are best?
- Two days with clinical focus and one day with practice operations/coding/billing/payment focus?
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: **Friday, May 29, 12:15-12:45** (same webinar/call information – invitation to follow)

Please tune in to VMS call with Commissioner Levine:

*Tuesday, June 2, 12:15-12:45*

Phone: 1-802-552-8456
Conference ID: 993815551