VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES

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June 12, 2020
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.
Today: Concluding Teacher Thank You Week
   Today is also World Day Against Child Labor
   Concluding Pet Appreciation Week
Continuing our new call schedule: Mon/Wed/Fri.
Situation, VDH, AAP and other updates
Today’s Media Briefing
Practice Issues: Immunization Catchup – Timber Lane Pediatrics
   COVID-19 Safe & Healthy School Guidance – Breena Holmes
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

- No patients in ICU/on ventilators
- Ongoing opportunities for testing of asymptomatic persons at pop-up sites – find times/locations & register at: https://humanresources.vermont.gov/popups

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).

Situation update

COVID-19 Cases and Deaths by Age Group

Vermont COVID-19 Now and Cumulative Cases, Cumulative Deaths

Hover over chart to see values, and drag scrollbar at top of chart to zoom into date range

Cases and Deaths by Date and Age


June 12, 2020
Continuing **food distribution**: 
- Register at: [https://humanresources.vermont.gov/food-help](https://humanresources.vermont.gov/food-help) or 2-1-1.

Department for Children and Families has very slowly begun to resume face-to-face visits for parents and their children, as well as by staff, this week (Burlington District Office; only a few visits scheduled).
AAP Advocacy at Work!

- **NEW** Cares Act Provider Relief Fund
  - Eligible if you billed Medicaid/CHIP Jan 2018 – Dec 2019, provided patient care after 1/31/20, & no funding from Provider Relief Fund general distribution. Receipt of PPP, EIDL, or targeted allocation from previous distribution from above does **not** disqualify.
  - Portal link: [https://cares.linkhealth.com/#/](https://cares.linkhealth.com/#/)

- AAP school re-entry virtual chapter town hall: **Monday, June 15, 7 p.m. Eastern** (highlight existing guidance CDC/AAP; Q & A)

- **NEW** AAP President-Elect: **Moira A. Szilagyi**, MD, PhD, FAAP (UCLA)
AAP Updates (Vermont Chapter & National)

- **AAP-VT Task Force on Minority Health Equity**
  - First meeting June 19, 2020, 8 – 9:00 a.m.

- **Priorities:**
  - Optimizing Clinical Practice (resources/glossary)
  - Resources for Parents (raising anti-racist children, infographics, etc.)
  - Screenings in Offices

- Incident at Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School, South Burlington, this week: vandalism against sign in support of Black Lives Matter (placed by student group: Students Organizing Against Racism/SOAR)
  - Law enforcement investigating as a hate crime
Governor Scott:
- Addressed racial equity – intends to maintain focus on this topic.
- Launched Racial Equity Task Force
- DPS & VSP have been focused on fair/impartial policing; issued 10-point proposal yesterday.
- COVID Response
  - Phase 1 economic recovery package: agriculture, housing, business
  - Legislature including ~1/3 of recommended spend (passed Senate)
- Phase 2: focus on long-term economic recovery
ACCD Secretary Lindsay Kurrle

- **Phase 1**: “cast a wide net with 3 entry points for financial aid.”
  - Requested 310m.
  - Legislative attention divides Governor’s proposal into smaller allotments.

- **Phase 2**: requesting 90m. in economic support (Commissioner of Economic Development, Joan Goldstein)
  - 55m. in grants, seed capital for businesses
  - 20m. for broadband availability/access
  - 11m. for community housing
  - Better Places Vermont Fund – physical infrastructure
  - Regulatory streamlining package – modernize programs/environmental permitting tools (paper to web/digital)
Today’s Media Briefing

DFR Commissioner Mike Pieciak – Modeling Data:

- Winooski: 84 new confirmed cases (38 traced to outbreak to date)
- NH (383) & ME (219) continue with higher case growth over past week.
- Heat map: spread from metro NYC, to suburban, to rural
- Recent VT case activity centered in Chittenden Co.
- Testing capacity remains high – >1K/day
- Haven’t updated projections; data skewed by outbreak (doubling rate now at 8 wks. vs. previously 12 wks.)
Commissioner Pieciak:

- **Restart Metrics**
  - Syndromic Surveillance trends <2%, (at times down to 1%; guardrail = 4%)
  - Viral growth rate (3-7 day): slight uptick, but <1.5% & no sustained growth
  - Percent positive tests: 3d. average ~1% (vs. 5% guardrail vs. WHO 10%)
  - ICU capacity: no ICU patients today

- **Regional Data**: 35% case reduction week over week.
  - Drive time: est. 135K active cases w/in 5-hour drive of VT borders (but 16% reduction in active cases since last week)
  - Interactive travel map: 7 addtl. cos. (62 cos.) with < 400 cases/1m. (almost all of ME)
  - Monday: travelers from any county may quarantine at home for 7 days, then test; or stay at lodging for quarantine for 14d. or for 7d. with test.
VDH Commissioner Levine

- Chittenden (Winooski/BTV/other) outbreak: 1st hosp. pt.
- Continue community level “universal precautions”: distance, cloth facial coverings, hand-washing, stay home when ill.
  - Tom Frieden’s 3 Ws: watch your distance, wear your mask, wash your hands.
- Testing: >3K tests at Winooski & Burlington pop-up sites.
  - Just completed testing at Southern State Correctional Facility – all neg.
  - Not aware of any positive tests associated with protests.
Immunization Catchup – Timber Lane Pediatrics

COVID-19 Safe & Healthy School Guidance – Dr. Breena Holmes
School Health Guidance: Daily Health Check

- Ask the following questions:
  - Have they been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19?
  - Do they feel unwell with any symptoms consistent with COVID-19?
- Conduct temperature screening

- Students who answer the above question affirmatively or have a temperature greater or equal to 100.4F must be returned to their parent/caregiver, as soon as possible.
- Schools must communicate with parents/caregivers about this requirement, so plans can be put in place if students do not pass the Daily Health Check upon boarding the bus or upon entry to the school.
School Health Guidance: Exclusions/Inclusions

Sick individuals MUST NOT enter the school bus or school building.

**Staff/Contractors**
Those who are age 65 or older, or with serious underlying health conditions, should talk to their healthcare provider to assess their risk and to determine if they should avoid in-person contact in which physical distancing cannot be maintained.

**Students**
Coordinate with pediatric healthcare provider & school nurse.

**Exclusions:**
- Showing symptoms of COVID-19
- Close contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- Fever (100.4 degrees F)
- A significant new rash
- Large amounts of nasal discharge in the absence of allergy diagnosis

**Inclusions:**
- Allergy symptoms (with no fever) with medical diagnosis
- Well-controlled asthma
School Health Guidance: Key Components

- **Drop-off/Pick-up**
  - Signs at all entrances
  - Handwashing/sanitizing stations at all entrances
  - Must go directly to classroom
  - No parents/caregivers (with some exceptions in early days and with agreement by administration)

- **Bus Considerations**
  - Bus monitors
  - Spaced out to number of students
  - Cohorted by age
  - Assigned seating
  - Tons of hand sanitizer
  - Bussing alternatives (walk, bike, drop-off)
School Health Guidance: Facial Coverings

- All staff are required to wear facial coverings
- Facial coverings are required for middle and high school students
- Facial coverings for elementary age students are highly recommended

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School Health Guidance: Group Size, Group Integrity, Distancing

- Not to exceed the maximum number issued by the Governor
- Keep classes together to include the same group of students each day
- Space seating/desks and bedding at least 6ft apart, forward facing (Step II)
- Limit sharing of materials

- Close communal spaces
- Extracurricular activities ok (except for high contact activities or with increased respiratory droplets)
- Playground equipment ok (with frequent cleaning and hand-sanitizer)
- Public use of grounds only
- No visitors, volunteers
School Health Guidance: Key Components

- COVID Task Force with school nurse leader
- Children with special health and education needs
- Social emotional health
- Food service guidance
- Ventilation
- Isolation rooms for sick individuals
- Communication (staff, students, families, community): 8 times, 8 ways
- Contact tracing (role of Health Department and schools)
- Health resource for school personnel
Upcoming Topics

- Final guidance for school re-opening, fall 2020
- AAP-VT Task Force on Minority Health Equity
- Immunization strategies/policy: catch-up, flu, COVID-19 (?)
- Refining guidance re: testing of HCWs in practices
- MIS-C (Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children)
- Health care “restart” details, incl. telehealth/telephone coverage
- Summer camps/other recreational activities
- OneCare Vermont all-payer model adjustments
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:** *Monday, June 15, 12:15-12:45* (same webinar/call information – invitation to follow) – *last call for this week.*

- Please tune in to VMS call with Commissioner Levine:
  
  *Tuesday, June 16, 12:15-12:45*

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