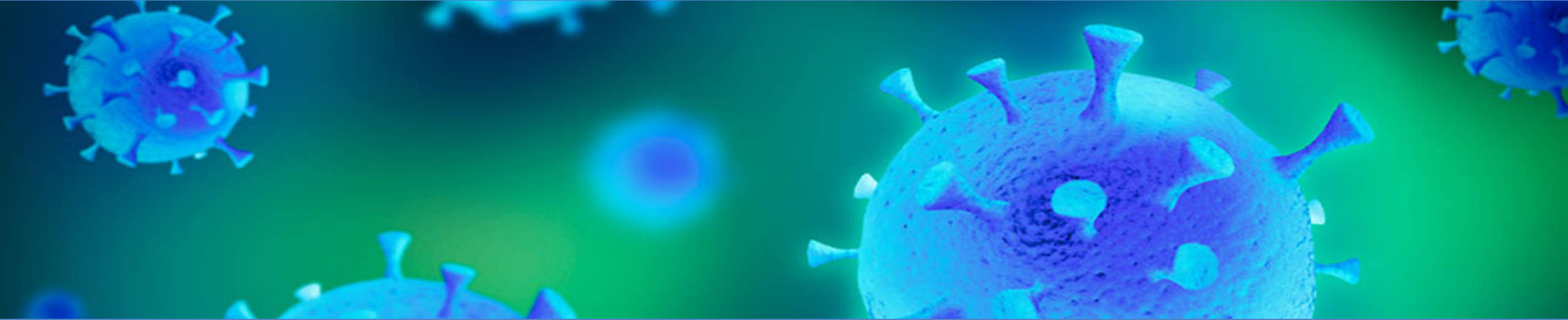


# VCHIP / CHAMP / VDH COVID-19 UPDATES



*Wendy Davis, MD FAAP - Senior Faculty, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM*  
*Breena Holmes, MD FAAP – VCHIP Senior Faculty & Physician Advisor, MCH Division, VDH*  
*September 21, 2020*




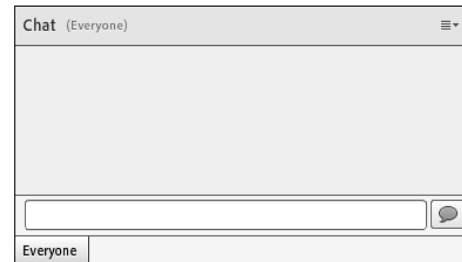
# Technology Notes

**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



## □ Honoring Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

- ▣ Tribute from Nina Totenberg (NPR):

<https://www.npr.org/2020/09/19/896733375/a-five-decade-long-friendship-that-began-with-a-phone-call>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2019/01/ruth-bader-ginsburg-feminist-hero/576403/>

## □ Rosh Hashanah

## □ Here comes the Autumnal Equinox! (September 22, 2020 at 9:31 a.m. EDT)

## □ Weekly event schedule: **special calls this week – see next slide**

- ▣ Usual schedule: VCHIP/CHAMP/VDH calls: M/W/F; Governor's Media Briefings Tues/Friday; VMS call with Commissioner Levine Thursdays

## □ Situation, VDH, AAP & Other Updates

## □ Practice Issues: Monday Potpourri (clarifying guidance)

## □ Q & A, Discussion

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

# Special Calls of Interest This Week

- ***NO VCHIP-VDH COVID-19 Call Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020***
- **Please consider joining:**
  - ▣ **Northern New England Pediatric Residency Advocacy Conference:** 12-1:30 pm – **Race and Equity Projects** - overview of diversity, equity, and inclusion topics by VT representatives (Jill Rinehart, Becca Bell, LE Faricy, Charlotte Safran)
  - ▣ **Anne Johnston Memorial Lectureship:** *Collaboration & Inclusion in Substance Use Disorder Care: Supporting the Mother-Child Dyad* (Dr. Hendree Jones). 12-1:00 pm via Zoom (see reg. link in tonight's email)
- **Pediatric Grand Rounds, Wednesday, Sept. 23 (8-9:00 am):**
  - ▣ ***Life Support: Equity as a Social Determinant of Health – Xusana Davis***, Vermont Executive Director of Racial Equity

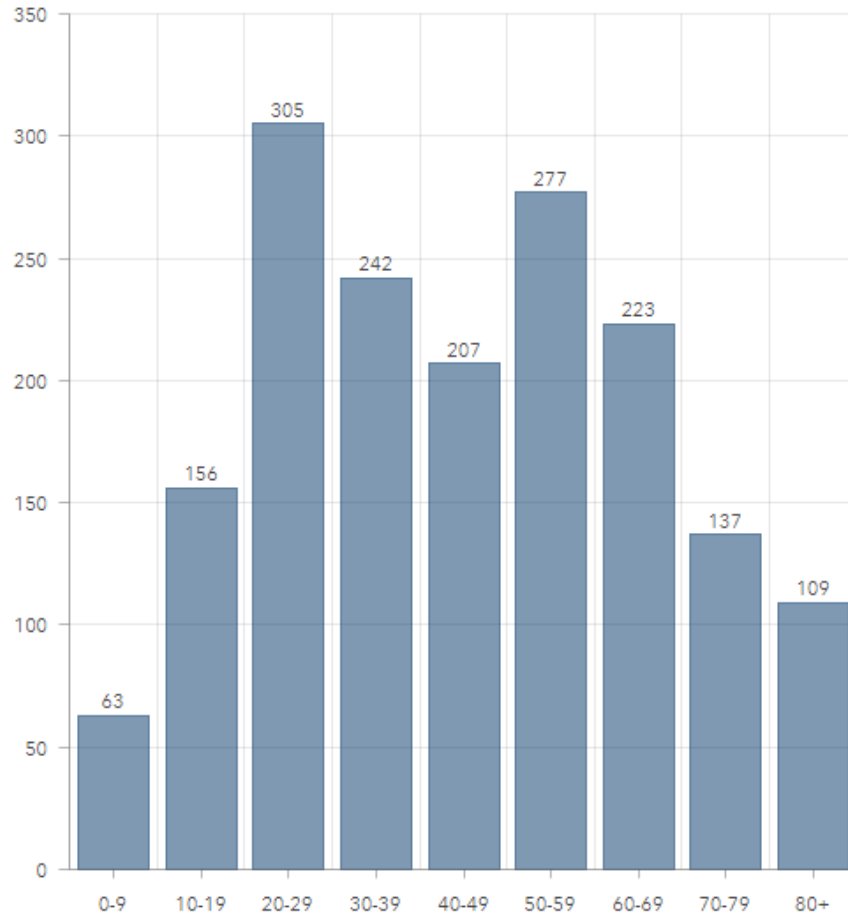
# Situation update

Total Cases <b>1,719</b> 4 New
Currently Hospitalized <b>2</b>
Hospitalized Under Investigation <b>1</b>
Total People Recovered <b>1,557</b>
Deaths <b>58</b>
People Tested <b>156,739</b>
Travelers Monitored <b>443</b>
Contacts Monitored <b>41</b>
People Completed Monitoring <b>8,644</b>
Last Updated: 9/21/2020, 11:50:12 AM

- U.S.: 6.8 million+; 200,686 deaths
  - <https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/coronavirus-deaths-united-states-each-day-2020-n1177936> (updated 9/21/20)
- **VDH Weekly Data Summary (9/18/20):**
  - Overview, case demographics, clinical course, outbreaks, syndromic surveillance  
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Weekly-Data-Summary-9-18-2020.pdf>
  - **Weekly Spotlight – Cases among Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC):** disproportionate number of BIPOC with COVID-19 in VT (371 VT resident cases among this population)

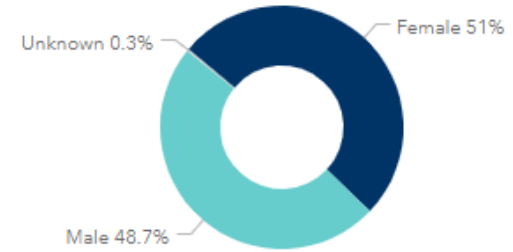
# Situation update

Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

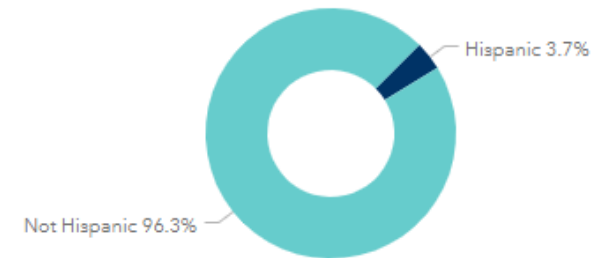


Case Demographics

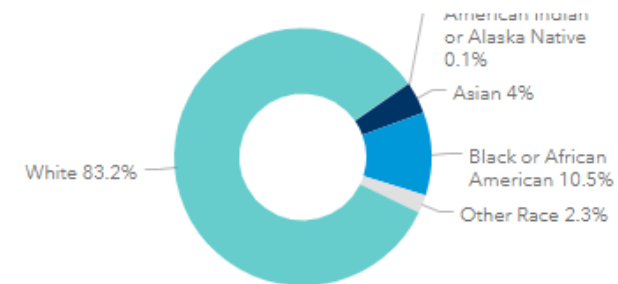
Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Sex



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Ethnicity if Known



Vermont COVID-19 Cases by Race if Known





# CDC News Update

- NYT (thank you, Lisa Gannon!): ***CDC Testing Guidance Was Published Against Scientists' Objections*** (<https://nyti.ms/2ZN0vDm>)
- **NYT Update after Friday call: *After Criticism, CDC Reverses Guidelines About Testing People Who Were Exposed*** (<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/18/health/coronavirus-testing-cdc.html>)
- **Revisions made on August 24, 2020:** “Diagnostic testing categories have been edited to focus on testing considerations & actions to be taken by individuals undergoing testing.”
- **Clarifications made on September 18, 2020:** “Due to the significance of asymptomatic & pre-symptomatic transmission, this guidance further reinforces the need to test asymptomatic persons, incl. close contacts of person with documented infection.”
  - ▣ **If you do not have COVID-19 symptoms and have not been in close contact with someone known to have SARS-CoV-2 infection (meaning being within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes):** You do not need a test **unless recommended or required by your healthcare provider or public health official.**

## Decreased Influenza Activity During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, Australia, Chile, and South Africa, 2020

Weekly / September 18, 2020 / 69(37);1305-1309

# A *Global* Pandemic

- More from the CDC: MMWR 9/18/20
  - “Following widespread adoption of community mitigation measures...the percentage of U.S. respiratory specimens submitted for influenza testing that tested positive decreased from >20% to 2.3% and has remained at historically low interseasonal levels (0.2% versus 1–2%). Data from Southern Hemisphere countries also indicate little influenza activity.”
  - “Interventions aimed against SARS-CoV-2 transmission, plus influenza vaccination, could substantially reduce influenza incidence and impact in the 2020–21 Northern Hemisphere season. Some mitigation measures might have a role in reducing transmission in future influenza seasons.”
- NYT – increased infections in Europe and elsewhere across the globe: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/21/world/covid-19-coronavirus.html>



# Pediatric COVID-19 Data

- **VDH** monitors Vermont-specific pediatric data bi-weekly
- **NEW:** school-specific COVID case dashboard (privacy concerns – advocacy needed?)



*Data are preliminary and subject to change.*



The data provided in the table below represent laboratory confirmed COVID-19 cases present and transmitted in Vermont K-12 schools. If a student, faculty, or staff member contracted COVID-19 outside of the school environment and was not present at the school during their infectious period, the case will not be counted in this table.

- Link to Public Testing Dashboards and Information for Vermont Colleges and Universities (VT Dept. of Financial Regulation)

<https://dfr.vermont.gov/about-us/covid-19/school-reopening>

# VDH Updates

- **Testing:** no changes in testing plan; HAN on antigen testing delayed to reconvening of Scientific Advisory Group to discuss further; work ongoing with Timber Lane Pediatrics to pilot anterior nares testing.
- **Schools:** Data Dashboard for school cases is live at:
  - ▣ <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/COVID19-Transmission-Schools.pdf>
  - ▣ Debrief of school cases at Crossett Brook MS led to improved communication pathways between schools and VDH.
- **Pediatric algorithm:** VDH School Liaisons very involved/helpful w/dissemination
  - ▣ Adult algorithm in process
  - ▣ “When Can I Go Back to School” for parents document undergoing revision
  - ▣ VDH – AOE meeting later this week re: move from Step II to Step III
  - ▣ Many discussions about thermometer accuracy and where to do temperature screening; no clear resolution at this time & will continue to follow.

*From AAP National:*

## Connecting with the Experts: AAP COVID-19 Town Halls

- Bi-weekly Series launched Thursday, September 10
- Interactive Q&A sessions with AAP experts
- Caring for Patients w/Acute Illness in Ambulatory Settings
  - September 10 at 7:00 pm CT
  - Expert Faculty: Sue Kressly, H. Dele Davies, Steve Caddle
- Next session on Thursday, September 24 at 7:00 pm CT
  - Proposed topic is **Testing**
  - Open to suggestions for future topics



# Update: VDH & AAP collaboration to increase flu vaccine coverage rates



## Welcome to the American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter

The American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter (AAPVT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the physical, mental, and social health and well-being of the state's infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. AAPVT works to achieve these goals by using the collective voice of Vermont's pediatricians to improve the lives of Vermont's youth through public education, research, child advocacy and policy development.

## It's time to complete the Flu Clinic Grant Application!

The form is available in the following ways:

1. [Hard Copy](#)
2. [Online Google Form](#)

American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter  
**NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES**

## AAPVT News

▶ **American Academy of Pediatrics Vermont Chapter Calls on Schools To Prioritize In Person Attendance for Preschool Through Grade 5 and For Students With Special Needs MONTPELIER (July 27, 2020)...**  
[read more](#)

▶ **Chapter Immediate Past President Dr. Jill Rinehart discusses prioritizing in person learning mychamplainvalley.com: As Vermont schools plan to reopen next month, some pediatricians are...**  
[read more](#)

▶ **AAPVT Chapter President Speaks at Governors Press Conference on Prioritizing In Person Learning Rebecca Bell spoke eloquently on the science and Vermont's unique position to be able to prioritize in...**  
[read more](#)

- Seeking novel strategies to address barriers and expand access
- Application may be downloaded: [www.aapvt.org](http://www.aapvt.org)
- May receive \$1,000 per clinic held, up to \$5,000
- Applications must be received by Oct 23, 2020
- NOTE **MMWR today** re: decreased influenza transmission in southern hemisphere
- **VDH WILL provide needles and/or syringes for vaccination, IF practices not able to obtain them in their usual manner (allocations of these supplies may be limited through some distributors. Working to establish a central ordering process (anticipate later this week). In the meantime, please email: [merideth.plumpton@vermont.gov](mailto:merideth.plumpton@vermont.gov)**

# Practice Issues

## *Monday Potpourri: Return to School & Childcare*



# Clinical (Weekend) Scenarios

- Health Guidance for **Childcare/Summer School/Afterschool** programs
  - ▣ "New symptoms of congestion/runny nose should be excluded & contact the child's healthcare provider, & not return until no longer contagious." (p. 9)
  - ▣ *What this statement means:* "A child with new symptoms of congestion/runny nose should be excluded from childcare" – NOT that these symptoms are excluded from the list of COVID-19 symptoms.
  - ▣ Parents also concerned about new symptoms of (very mild) cough & asking if they really need to be out of school for the entire duration of congestion/runny nose and/or cough – or whether they can return when "improved" but not yet back to baseline
  - ▣ Confusion re: how to determine when child is no longer contagious (for adenovirus/ rhinovirus/flu typically is 5-10 days, but can be longer.



# School Reopening

- (New) issue: thermometers not functioning properly in cold weather (below 60 degrees).
- AOE/VDH response to 1<sup>st</sup> 2 weeks of school:
  - ▣ Anticipate meeting this week to determine opportunity to move to “officially” to Step III
- Concern raised (thank you, Katie Marvin!) re: discordance between school and rec sports; anticipation of change in inter-scholastic competition (esp. re: field spectators, etc.)
- Reviewing **Rhode Island’s** excellent Playbook & Parent Handout for school reopening (thank you, Alicia Veit)

# VCHIP CHAMP 2020 Learning Session

## *Strengthening Vermont's System of High-Performing Medical Homes*

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Zoom**

- Improving screening & follow-up for family centered preventive services and well child visits\*
  - Social Determinants of Health (SDoH)
  - Blood lead level testing
  - Oral health
  - Vision
  - Strabismus
  - Developmental Screening
- \*12-24 months and 3-6 years*
- Racial and health equity in delivery of care
- Maximizing the use of practice-based care coordination resources
- Connecting families to needed support programs

**Register by October 1 at <http://go.uvm.edu/champ2020learningsession>**

For questions, reach out to the CHAMP Team at [vchip.champ@uvm.edu](mailto:vchip.champ@uvm.edu)

# Topics We Are Following

- School (K-12), college/university reopening, return to sports guidance
- School and recreational sports
- AAP-VT Task Force on Race and Health Equity
- Immunization strategies/policy: catch-up, flu, COVID-19 (?)
- Pediatric health care “restart”: how to safely reopen your practices (Ideas? Questions?) – please email: [vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu](mailto:vchip.champ@med.uvm.edu)
  - ▣ Federal and state COVID-19 financial relief
- MIS-C (Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children)
- OneCare Vermont all-payer model adjustments

# 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](mailto: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](https://www.med.uvm.edu/vchip/projects/vchip_champ_vdh_covid-19_updates)
- Next CHAMP call: **Friday, September 25, 12:15-12:45** (current schedule: usually Mon/Wed/Friday) – **NO CHAMP call Wednesday, 9/23/20; details re: options to follow**
- Please tune in to VMS Thursday calls with VDH Commissioner Levine: **Thursday, September 24, 12:30-1:00 p.m. – Zoom platform & call info:**
- **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# Dial In- +1 646 876 9923 / Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Password: 540684