

VCHIP CHAMP VDH COVID-19

April 14, 2021 | 12:15-12:45pm Call Questions and Answers*

Wendy Davis, MD, FAAP, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM
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Questions/Discussion:

Q: What do we do with infants who travel? Pop-up sites are not set up for children under 12 months. Looking for some feedback on how to get infants tested.

A: Alex Bannach, MD, North Country Pediatrics: Testing any age in office - thanks to the anterior nare swabs provided by public health lab. NCH lab is also accepting any age.

A: Judy Orton, MD, Green Mountain Pediatrics: For my practice, we test at our office so not an issue. Not certain if SVMC drive through testing does or not.

A: Colleen Moran, MD, Northwestern Pediatrics: Copley sees any age, but results take longer to return than pop up. Testing times are also very limited.

A: Ellen Gnaedinger, APRN, South Royalton Health Center: SRHC tests all ages.

A: Kristan Outwater, MD, Brattleboro Primary Care, Pediatrics: We do COVID testing in our office, sending out specimens through the local hospital.

Q: What about someone who received COVID-19 vaccine and then has cut/injury and needs tetanus booster?

A: Benjamin Lee, MD, UVMCH & Larner COM Dept. of Pediatrics: There should never be a reason to delay tetanus booster if indicated due to injury.

A: William Raszka, MD, UVMCH & Larner COM Dept. of Pediatrics: While we generally do not schedule vaccines within two weeks of COVID-19 vaccines, if care is needed, the vaccine should be given.

Q: My understanding is that both the AZ and J&J vaccine are adenovirus-based vaccines. Wondering if there are any other (non-COVID) adenovirus-based vaccines in use and if sinus venous thrombosis has also been described with those?

A: Benjamin Lee, MD, UVMCH & Larner COM Dept. of Pediatrics: There is an Ebola vaccine that was approved based on adenovirus vector but has been used in numbers way too small to be able to pick up this signal.

Q: Curious why schools can remain closed on Wednesdays for a "cleaning day" if that is not recommended by the VDH?

A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP, VDH: Wednesdays were never for cleaning. The schools that really took us seriously and abided by public health guidance made it very clear that Wednesdays were for organization and planning and meeting student needs, there was nothing about deep cleaning anywhere in our guidance. Wednesdays are still being used for planning in a complex world of hybrid and remote. If kids are in the building, they may find that they do not need Wednesdays anymore – but I am not sure we will get there in the next six weeks.

*Note: This is a paraphrased synopsis of the call and is not a word-for-word transcription.

C: The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices is meeting today to review the data on the Johnson and Johnson vaccine. Be aware of the reports of adverse events and be aware of the pause including in Vermont and all 50 states as we understand.

C: Liz Richards, MD, Brattleboro Primary Care, Pediatrics: Frustrating that people who were scheduled for J&J vaccine this week now are told to go back and re-register, which puts them in line for vaccines 1mo from now.

C: Becca (Rebecca) Bell, MD, UVMCH PICU: Please fill out this form to share your story and interest in adding your voice to the campaign.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf86W9trvrFff3mMHq-4GQvXKRyoPAhIdenGuvvwP-K_ajpiA/viewform

C: Stephanie Winters, Vermont Medical Society: Thank you for calling attention to the call for Primary Care voices!

C: Chloe Learey, Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development: I want to put a plug in for folks to pay attention to the administration's proposal to dismantle the Child Development Division and Children's Integrated Services (CIS). While the bill (H.394) did not get traction, I am concerned the initiative will gain traction operationally. CIS is an effective approach for early intervention and prevention to support families and early childhood development and taking it apart will cost more and be less effective.

C: The state has received a significant amount of money from the American Rescue Plan and some of that money will be targeting summer after school programs. Focus is giving kids of all ages the chance to re-engage, connect, learn, and get back in the swing of things.

C: Becca (Rebecca) Bell, MD, UVMCH PICU: Hyperlink here. The website is great!
<https://www.vermontafterschool.org/summermatters/>