

VCHIP CHAMP VDH COVID-19

April 26, 2021 | 12:15-12:45pm Call Questions and Answers*

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

Breena Holmes, MD, FAAP, Physician Advisor, Maternal & Child Health, Vermont Department of Health (VDH), VCHIP Senior Faculty

Questions/Discussion

Q: Any news on camps for kids in Vermont?

A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP, VDH: All guidance was released Friday night for summer day and overnight camp, as well as childcare updates. Check the VCHIP email from Friday night (4/23) and the childcare section of the VDH website.

*A: Nathaniel Waite, RN, VDH: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/2021-child-care-and-summer-guidance.pdf>
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/Overnight-Summer-Camp-Guidance.pdf>*

C: Nathaniel Waite, RN, VDH: Of note, it also says boarding students in the following section from the FAQ: "On April 29, Vermont expects to open vaccine registration to college students who are residents of another state and do not intend to stay in Vermont for the summer, boarding students, and people who live part of the year in Vermont."

Q: There has been rumored push back from adult medical homes about providing COVID vaccines. If we can afford/manage storage, pediatric medical homes and schools seem to be the best for young kids.

A: Ashley Miller, MD, South Royalton Health Center: We are ready for school and in office! Please send our way!

A: Stephanie Winters, Vermont Medical Society: I have not heard that on the adult side. I think most are ready for the vaccine in office. Obviously, it is more to think about than normal vaccines, but I have not heard an overwhelming concern from FP.

Q: When we did the large H1N1 clinics at the schools 10+ years ago that went well. The VDH coordinated those for the schools & school nurses did the vaccinating, South Royalton staff at the time also helped. Maybe we can do something similar?

A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP, VDH: great brainstorming. Secretary French from AOE is part of the 5 pm meeting today. School nurses have expressed interest but are also busier than during H1N1 for sure!

A: Leigh Gibson: I am worried about the timing of the EUA authorization of 12-15 and the end of the school year.

A: William Raszka, MD, UVMCH & Larner COM Dept. of Pediatrics: It will be tricky if students cannot schedule an appointment 3 weeks after the first dose.

A: Susan Sykas DNP, Appleseed Pediatrics: School sites with other administrators such as National Guard, could be used if school is out when decision is made. That way the site is in community, known to student but RN's may be out of school then.

A: Ellen Gnaedinger, APRN, South Royalton Health Center: We had to do a second H1N1 immunization; many schools are going thru the end of 2nd week of June & some into the 3rd week of June.

Q: Someone said their daycare could not advise masks to be a qualified enter for funding? So, they can still encourage, just not require?

A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP, VDH: If you receive state funding through the educational system (pre-K dollars for up to 4-year-olds), then you must follow the governor's Vermont Forward. If you are a private program, you can be more restrictive; however, we feel strongly that we do not want to create equity issues where restrictions are required in private, but not public settings. Really consider the needs of families and their access, and then providers make their own rules. If people want to make their own rules in the private sector, then that is not something the State wants to address.

Q: Do you know if previous infection with SARS-CoV-2 in the past three months will allow students/adults to participate in end of year celebrations, etc.?

A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP, VDH: That does need to be stated explicitly in the guidance, as the intent was there to include them.

Nathaniel Waite, RN, VDH: Definitely not while in isolation!

Q: When does VDH recommend vaccination following COVID-19 illness? Still waiting 3 months? Or any sooner as many states are doing?

A: Benjamin Lee, MD, UVMCH & Larner COM Dept. of Pediatrics: There is no specific interval recommended other than clearing isolation and feeling well, just an allowance to defer up to the 3 months if desired.