

VCHIP CHAMP VDH COVID-19

September 13, 2021 | 12:15-12:45pm Call Questions and Answers\*

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

Breena Holmes, MD, FAAP, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program, UVM

**Questions/Discussion**

**Q: Are pulse oximeters still being put into the homes for those who test positive and have symptoms?**

*A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP (verbally): VDH is still putting oximeters in the homes for those who test positive and have symptoms. Contact the department of health with questions.*

**Q: Why does the most recent algorithm does not include an option to test for COVID-19 in an unvaccinated asymptomatic child who has a close contact when first identified as a close contact (or 2 days after contact) and then again at day 7 if still asymptomatic given that is the published recommendation by VDH?**

*A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP (verbally): We tried to incorporate this feedback into the algorithm but didn't have room, so we opted to leave it out. It's intuitive to seek out a COVID-19 test immediately if you find out you've been in close contact with someone with COVID-19. Clinical sense and decision-making must be layered into this algorithm.*

**Q: What is going on with school nurses testing children and adults at school? Who is setting that up? How will school nurses be notified of this and get supplies?**

*A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP (verbally): AOE is leading the student surveillance testing through the CIC and the health department. School nurses are not involved in testing, but involved in organizing, planning, and supporting students. Relevant resources outlined in the PowerPoint will be sent out in the email this evening, including a template consent letter for families, testing video for kids and families, onboarding guide, introductory webinar, and an operations webinar.*

**Q: Is there a list of reputable journal articles that indicate the continued use of masks in schools is essential?**

*A: Breena Holmes, MD, VCHIP (verbally): There are some CDC/MMRW reports that will be in tonight's email and on the website.*

*A: Wendy Davis, MD, VCHIP: I do have some references on that - will add to tonight's email.*

**Q: Any update for vaccine boosters for health care workers?**

*A: Monica Ogelby, VDH: The FDA meets Friday so more booster intel after that.*

**C: A call out to remind primary providers to return the communication tools back to the schools with your guidance - for those doing so, thank you.**