

NEW YORK STATE IMMUNIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF June 2, 2022 MEETING

Council Members: Dr. Debra Tristram, Ms. Elie Ward, Dr. Kenneth Rowin, Ms. Alison Singer, Mr. Paul Macielak, Dr. Guthrie Birkhead

NYSDOH Staff Members: Ms. Robin Sutor, Ms. Kara Connelly, Dr. Dina Hofer, Ms. Loretta Santilli, Ms. Barbara Joyce, Ms. Stephanie Ostrowski, Ms. Sarah Hershey, Mr. Dileep Sarecha, Ms. Lyndsey Hoyt, Ms. Alexandra Hamburg, Ms. Kate Sorensen, Ms. Kelly Brady, Mr. Johnathan Karmel, Ms. Maxine Goldberg, Ms. Shainza Noor, Jason Riegert, Dr. Jessica Kumar, Ms. Anike Shaw

NYCDOHMH Staff Members: Dr. Jane Zucker

Other: Michelle Monnier (GSK), Thomas Dumas (GSK), Tobey Snyder (GSK), Rajeev Shah (GSK), Molly Ortolani Walsh (MERC), Robert Zullo (MERC), Darlene Juliano (MERC), Mike Goldstein (MERC), Edgar Moya (MERC), Gregory Honsberger (PFI), Sagar Shah (PAS), Scott Eden (PAS), Andrew Rannekamp (SEQ), Joanne Walsh (SEQ), Carrie Farrell (SEQ), Tiffany Gerling (SEQ), Karen Oles (Dynavax), Natalie Taylor (Dynavax), Holly Acevedo (Schenectady County PH), Robert Viets (NYSACHO), Marla J. Campbell, PharmD (AstraZeneca), Mike Rosa (AstraZeneca)

Invited Guest: Agenda Item	Discussion	Follow-Up
<p>Welcome / Chair's Remarks: Dr. Debra Tristram</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was called to order by Dr. Tristram at 12:30 pm. • Introductions of those in attendance were completed. • Dr. Tristram stated that the council has identified and began the process for confirming the 2 new voting members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mike Taranova, pediatrician from Buffalo ○ Larry Kellog Infection Disease Specialist, downstate • There is now a 3rd opening, accepting recommendations <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of changes due to Covid-19 and staff turnover and competing priorities • Anti-vaxers mistakenly think we're voting on recommending the Covid-19 vaccine to children attending school 	<p>Dr. Tristram to send recommendation letter with a copy of the nominees' CVs to begin the confirmation process, and copies will be sent to council members</p>
<p>Approval of March 2022 Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March minutes approved 	
<p>NYC DOHMH Update: Dr. Jane Zucker</p>	<p>Pediatric Vaccination</p>	

- At the end of 2021, the aggregate number of routine vaccinations that were given to children under 18 was 16% lower than compared to pre-pandemic.
- Down to 63% for Quarter 4 2021 for children aged 19-35 months UTD with 4:3:1:3:3:1:4, that's down from 72.9% in Quarter 1 of 2020
- Up to date coverage for the vaccine series for 19–35-month-olds has decreased substantially.
- Chart by antigen, most notable:
 - DTaP 77.6 down to 63%
 - MMR went from 90.9% to 80.8% coverage rates
- Race and ethnicity:
 - drops along all groups,
 - less of a drop among those who identify as Asian
 - large drops among those who identify as Black, non-Hispanic and White non-Hispanic
- Geographic:
 - Manhattan down 14.4% points (greatest out migration)
 - Brooklyn down 9.4% points,
 - Bronx down 8.6% points, and
 - Queens down 5.1% points.
 - Staten Island has mostly remained unchanged, up .7% points (least out migration)
- Reasons for Decline:
 - Decreased in-person well-care visits during the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Clinic closures
 - Reduced operating hours
 - Increased use of telemedicine
 - Fear of exposure to COVID-19
 - Remote learning; school immunization requirements in place during pandemic, but exclusions not enforced for remote-only students
 - Decline in birth cohort
 - Out-migration from NYC during the pandemic

Flu Vaccine

- 43% increase in adult influenza doses reported to the registry. Some of this is due to more reporting and some of it is an actual increase in vaccination.
- 7% decrease in pediatric flu vaccine from peak levels pre-pandemic
- Decrease in all age groups, 6-59 months have the smallest decrease 5.4%, perhaps due to the flu requirement for daycares

	<p>Covid-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have issued over 17 million doses • All ages: 87.4% have received at least 1 dose, 78.6 are fully vaccinated, and 38.4% have received the additional dose • Adults 18 and older: 97.8% have received at least one dose, 88.2 are fully vaccinated and 46.2 have received the additional dose • Children 5-12: 55% have at least one dose, 47% are fully vaccinated • Children 13-17: 90% have at least 1 dose, 80% are fully vaccinated, and 24% have the additional dose <p>Pediatric Support Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched May 25 • Targeted 911 independent practices that provide routine vaccinations to children under 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 406 administering COVID-19 vaccines • 505 facilities are not • Up to \$10,000 to support COVID-19 vaccination activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 deliverables: enrollment, survey, and vaccine administration <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eli Ward – we are promoting your promotion with our chapter 2 and 3 members and the 5 boroughs so we’re hoping we can get you some more people to apply • Dr. Birkhead – I was struck by the difference in coverage from adolescence and the younger kids, and you’ve one comment that it may just be fewer vaccines with older kids, do you have a sense of for the younger kids, is it just one or two or can you look cumulatively if there is something else going on? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Missing visits, out migration impact, may have completed the vaccine series elsewhere ○ Does not connect with NYSIIS, we’d have to actively look for them ○ We did begin a data exchange with Medicaid and Connecticut • Elie Ward – more negative intervening variables, vaccine hesitancy is on the rise • It seems to be both families not going into their pediatrician’s office, as well as misinformation • 2nd booster data is not available, really low 	
<p>Influenza Immunization Update Sarah Hershey, RN, BSN</p>	<p>Influenza Remains Widespread in NYS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of week ending 5/14/2022 influenza continues to be widespread. • This is the 26th consecutive week of widespread activity. • Influenza surveillance season has been extended 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although unusual, two peak season, still lower than the 2019-2020 flu season • Positive influenza lab results by region, higher in the Metro area, higher among 65+ <p>Highlights of the CDC’s Key Points for the 2021-22 Influenza Season as of 5/20/2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influenza virus continue to circulate nationally and increasing in parts of the country. • This is very late in the season for influenza activity to be increasing. • Hospitalizations are high for this time of year, but rates for the year are relatively low compared to previous influenza seasons. • Preliminary influenza vaccine effectiveness results indicate the vaccine did not reduce the risk of mild to moderate illness from the H3N2 viruses that have been the majority of viruses detected. • CDC continues to recommend influenza vaccination as long as influenza viruses are circulating. 	
<p>Legislative Update Elie Ward Dr. Guthrie Birkhead</p>	<p>Eli Ward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day of the legislative season, nothing specific to immunization • Considering next year, once we have FDA full approval on Covid-19 vaccines we are gathering materials to make the recommendation to mandate the vaccine for children attending school <p>Dr. Guthrie Birkhead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation for adults regarding the option to ‘opt out’ rather than ‘opt in’ for reporting to state immunization information systems. Senate bill is still in “committee” likely not to pass. • Confidentiality bill as well 2168, covers contact tracing, adds language regarding what can and cannot be shared with CDC <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerned citizens raised concerns regarding the effectiveness of the Covid-19 vaccine and school mandates • Dr. Tristham – vaccines are effective and that is not the prevue of this meeting or council 	
<p>Covid-19 Vaccination Program Update Loretta A. Santilli, MPH</p>	<p>Covid-19 Vaccines Timeline – Updates</p> <p>3/29/22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC updates its clinical guidance to allow persons with moderate to severe immunocompromise AND people over the age of 50 years who received the initial booster dose at least 4 months ago to be eligible for another mRNA booster • Adults who received a primary vaccine and booster dose of Janssen/J&J COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months ago may also now receive a second booster dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine <p>5/19/22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC recommends a Pfizer booster dose for person ages 5-11 years, who are NOT moderately to severely immunocompromised, at least 5 months after the primary series 	

- CDC recommends a Pfizer booster dose for person ages 5-11 years, who ARE moderately to severely immunocompromised, at least 3 months after the primary series
- CDC clinical considerations were amended for people who recently had SARS-CoV-2 infection to delay their primary series or booster dose by 3 months from symptom onset or positive test (if infection was asymptomatic).

Provider Channels

- 5,252 providers fully enrolled as of 6/1/22. 494 are pediatric offices.
- 11 [NYS operated vaccination sites](#) “State PODs” remain operational
 - Medgar Evers College – Brooklyn will be permanently closed as of 06/03/2022
- [NYS #VaxForKids](#) - Community based vaccination events in partnership with local provider partners (LHDs, pharmacies, hospitals, FQHCs)
- Community- and faith-based [pop ups](#) – continued focus on ZIP codes with lower vaccination coverage rates.

Provider Education

[COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Providers](#)

- Comprehensive website with guidance, trainings, resources
- [Guidance: Children Ages 5-11](#) 5/21/22 Significant format revision, addition of booster info
- [Individuals 12 and older](#) 4/1/22 – latest revision in approvals

[NYSDOH COVID-19 Vaccine Webinars for Healthcare Providers](#)

Previous webinars recorded and available for viewing

- Under development – Vaccinating Children Under 5 years

Journal Articles

JAMA publications about efficacy for 5-11yo population

- [Risk of Infection and Hospitalization Among Vaccinated and Unvaccinated Children and Adolescents in New York After the Emergence of the Omicron Variant](#)
- [Association of Prior BNT162b2 COVID-19 Vaccination With Symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Children and Adolescents During Omicron Predominance](#)
- [Protecting Children Against Omicron](#)

Public Education [#VaccinateNY](#)

(links to many social media resources and materials)

- Dedicated workgroup to **promote vaccine confidence** and quickly **address misinformation** that may spread on social media and in other media forms

- Intensive campaigns including media buys featuring Dr. Bassett encouraging vaccinations for [kids](#) and [boosters](#)
- Link to the YouTube page with all the DOH videos: <https://www.youtube.com/user/NYSDOH/videos>
- “COVID is still a risk” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXyC62MAzHo>
- [#GettheVaxFacts](#) - Campaign to counter misinformation and disinformation with [downloadable toolkits](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) - Answers to common questions about the COVID-19 vaccine.

May 12, 2022

- Our country marked an unthinkable milestone - one million lives lost due to COVID-19.
- We don't want any more New Yorkers to go through the pain of losing a loved one to this awful virus.
- New York has made significant progress in the fight against COVID-19. We must keep using the tools we know protect against and treat COVID-19: [Vaccines](#), [Boosters](#), [Testing](#), and [Treatment](#).

What's Next

Vaccines:

- Monitor new products or changes in authorization or approval of existing products
- Coming VERY soon: COVID-19 vaccines for young children:

June 3rd Potential opportunity to pre-order COVID-19 vaccine for young children

June 7th VRBPAC Novavax 18+ (no rollout expected in the U.S. until fall)

June 14th VRBPAC Moderna EUA for children ages 6-17 years

June 15th VRBPAC Moderna EUA for children ages 6 months-5 years and Pfizer EUA 6 months-4 years

June 16-17th ?? ACIP expected to review based upon VRBPAC decision

June 22nd & 23rd ACIP Routine Meeting

June 28th VRBPAC COVID strain selection/future boosters

Program:

- The primary focus continues to be vaccinating the unvaccinated (including hard to reach adults, adolescents and children 5-11 and younger than 5 – when authorized) while supporting ongoing booster efforts.
- Monitoring expiration dates, beyond use dates, proper storage and inventory to prevent avoidable waste.
- Continued integration of COVID-19 activities within regular immunization operations

Data and Systems

- NYSIIS (CIR in NYC) continues to support all data reporting needs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Vaccine Finder tool remains active for determining vaccine provider locations • Excelsior Pass (being phased out by the end of June) and Excelsior Pass Plus — New York’s free, voluntary and secure platform to retrieve digital proof of COVID-19 vaccination. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New York State’s Excelsior Pass Blueprint is a national framework to aid in the development and implementation of digital health credentials. <p>COVID-19 Data Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centralized COVID-19 data access page with information related to testing, hospitalization, fatalities, vaccination, etc. <p>NYS COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38,932,413 doses have been administered • Additional Doses and Boosters administered: 8,540,541 <p>Vaccination Coverage (NYSIIS/CIR data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 74.5% fully vaccinated, 82.1% with one dose, data available on age groups, race/ethnicity <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen spoke at length about vaccine hesitancy in minority communities • Lora responded that this is a good conversation to have with her healthcare provider 	
<p>Vaccines for Children Update: Lyndsey Hoyt</p>	<p>Product Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VFA: Two new pneumococcal conjugate vaccines, PCV15 (Vaxneuvance) and PCV20 (Prevnar 20) became available March 7, 2022. As of April 1, 2022, PCV13 no longer recommended for adults or orderable for VFA. • VFC: Sanofi transitioning to MenQuadfi as their sole meningococcal ACYW conjugate. Menactra will be phased out mid-2022. <p>VFC Ordering Trends – All Vaccines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 provider vaccine ordering trend is below 2019, but above 2020, similar with adolescent and non-adolescent vaccine orders • 2019 was the year the vaccine mandate went into effect so that is also why we see more vaccines ordered that year <p>VFA Ordering Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccines for adults tend to be outbreak oriented, for example, March of 2019 had a Hep A outbreak so you can see a peak in ordering the Hep A vaccine there • Still about half of the doses ordered as we’ve seen in 2019, largely due to uninsured adults <p>COVID Vaccine Ordering – Doses Delivered Rest of State though 5/31/2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall 25.6 million doses ordered and distributed through NYS • Ordering trends for Covid vaccine by product, coincide with new recommendations 	

	VFC Compliance Visits (FY 2021 through May 2022) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Required to be completed at least once every 24 months• Pandemic limited these visits, more done virtually	
Adjournment:	The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.	