

COVID-19

- Cases continue to be below 100 – know there is a lot of home testing but numbers are not changing much week to week
- Hospitalization inched up to high 30s from low- to mid-30s
- Have not gone up to higher CDC risk rating
- Reporter asked about higher # of patients at UVMHC – VDH data did not match this and numbers look stable
- UVM % of cases hospitalized because of COVID is less than 20%
- Number of deaths in Sept has only been 4 – that would be a gratifying trend to keep going
- Therapeutics: nothing new to report
- Vaccines: over 15,000 doses of bivalent vaccine delivered, many at EMS sites throughout the state
 - Early on there were waits/lines – seeing less of that now
 - Health care practices starting to get more doses, as well as at pharmacy
 - Word is that age 5-11 will be authorized for bivalent vaccine by mid-October – both Pfizer and Moderna – Pfizer would be totally different product; Moderna would be same product but different dose
 - Moderna was delayed in delivering doses due to extra quality control of manufacturing – seems to be resolved
 - Flu vaccine now also in better supply, will start to see more and more people getting both
- Schools: have had more “outbreaks” at schools (still in single digits of students) – but atmosphere of schools is still reported very upbeat and positive – staff and faculty feeling comfortable, more in-person parent-teacher conferences, etc – not seeming to be very disruptive of learning environment
- Team meeting was this morning – fairly quiet
- Q: people who can’t get an mRNA vaccine are currently out of luck for boosters – is there one in the works for a non-mRNA formulation? ML is not aware – no word on Novavax boosters – right now there isn’t an option

HMPXV

- No new cases in VT – still only 3 cases
- Country has reached a plateau
- Pride parade in VT was over the weekend – VDH participated, had a table – set up special clinic for vaccine – only delivered 6 doses – not seeing huge uptake in vaccine in VT
- Many people in high risk groups went to Montreal or out of state – so may have been a perception that VT did not have a lot available – which was true, but still had more than demand
- Planning to wind down health operations center specifically on HMPXV and role into normal VDH activities

Polio

- NY declared state of emergency – still only 1 case there announced weeks ago
- Others have potential to have polio we know from wastewater but not more reports of paralysis
- Rates of vaccination in VT of kids entering kindergarten is 97%, which is excellent

- Don't have adult rates because most adults don't have records or don't remember – but imagine it is very high