



Vermont Immunization Bulletin

January 2020

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Program Updates

Program Name Change

In Vermont, the Immunization Program purchases vaccines from the CDC federal contract at no cost to providers for use in children and adults. For many years, this program has been called VFC (Vaccines for Children) and VFA (Vaccines for Adults). As of January 2020, [the name of the universal program is changing](#).

- [Vermont Vaccine Program \(VVP\)](#) – formerly VFC/VFA. The VVP includes the Vermont Child Vaccine Program (VCVP) and the Vermont Adult Vaccine Program (VAVP).
 - Vermont Child Vaccine Program (VCVP) – formerly VFC. The Vermont Child Vaccine Program (VCVP) covers those eligible for the federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) program, as well as the privately insured population under age 19.
 - Vermont Adult Vaccine Program (VAVP) – formerly VFA. The Vermont Adult Vaccine Program (VAVP) covers adults age 19-64. Patients over 65 years old are not eligible for state supplied vaccine.

This change will not impact the required VFC categories in your EHR, the registry or ordering. If you have any questions, please [contact us](#).

Provider Appreciation

Every year, vaccine shipping is suspended for a period around the holidays. This time frame will always be communicated to practices and we will ask that you plan your orders with that in mind. This year, many practices experienced significant delays in vaccine shipments despite following our instructions. We are very sorry for the inconvenience this may have caused you and your patients. While this was something that was beyond our control, we will work to anticipate this in the future and plan ordering communications accordingly. For anyone who experienced these delays, we sincerely appreciate your patience. For all practices, thank you for everything you do to immunize Vermonters.

Adult Flu Vaccines Will be Offered in the 2020-2021 Flu Season

The Immunization Program will supply adult influenza vaccines for enrolled VCVF and VAVP practices. Practices will not be asked to provide adult vaccine estimates and use of state-supplied flu vaccine will be allowed in off-site clinics. More information will be included in a future edition of this bulletin.

State Activities

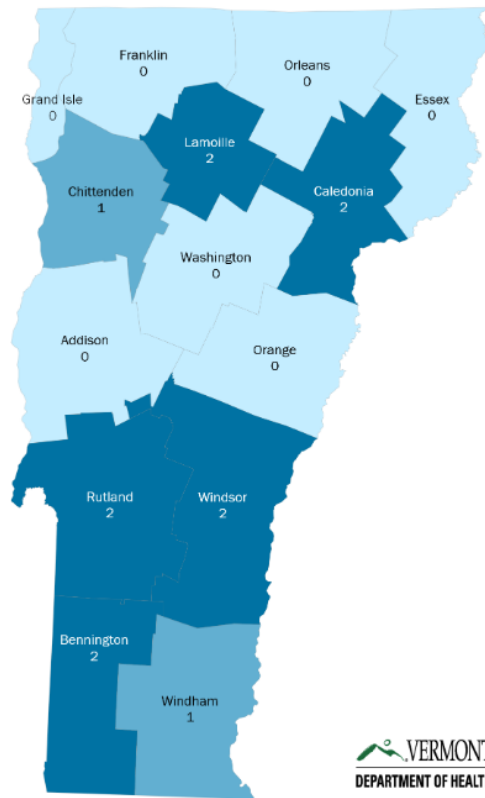
Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B Outbreaks in Vermont

As noted in the [Health Advisory](#) sent on January 15, Vermont is in the early stages of hepatitis A and B outbreaks. In 2019, Vermont had 12 cases of acute hepatitis A virus (HAV) infection, compared with the previous five-year average of three cases per year – and nine cases of acute hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection, compared with the previous five-year average of fewer than three cases per year. The majority of the 2019 hepatitis A and B cases were among people who had one or more of the risk factors identified in the hepatitis A outbreaks in 30 states since 2016. For more information, visit our [hepatitis website](#).

Number of Illnesses	Cases	Percent
Number of Reported Cases	12	—
Hospitalized	6	50%
Deaths	0	0%

County	Cases	Percent
Addison	0	0%
Bennington	2	17%
Caledonia	2	17%
Chittenden	1	8%
Essex	0	0%
Franklin	0	0%
Grand Isle	0	0%
Lamoille	2	17%
Orange	0	0%
Orleans	0	0%
Rutland	2	17%
Washington	0	0%
Windham	1	8%
Windsor	2	17%
Statewide	12	100%

Hepatitis A Cases
01/01/2019 - 01/21/2020



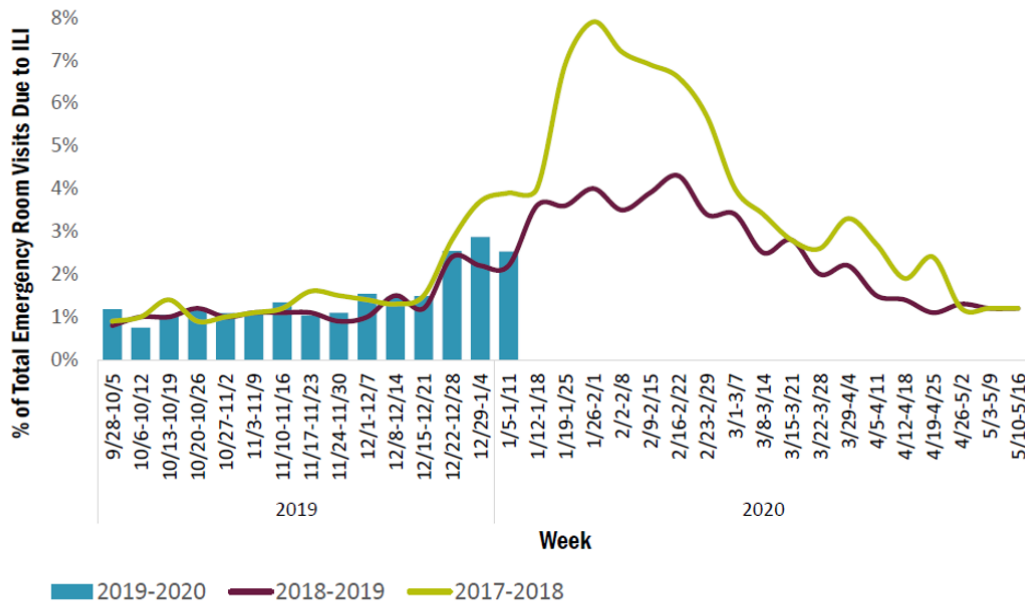
Flu Activity in Vermont

The geographic spread of flu in Vermont has been elevated to widespread, which means that we are seeing flu in most parts of the state. Flu activity has most likely not peaked yet in Vermont. Click the image below for a weekly report on flu activity in Vermont.

Syndromic Surveillance

Vermont Emergency Room and Urgent Care Visits for Influenza-like Illness


Influenza-like illness = fever and cough and/or sore throat




*Geographic spread: estimated level of geographic spread of influenza activity in the state. This level does not measure the severity of influenza activity. States report geographic spread of influenza activity as no activity, sporadic, local, regional, or widespread.

01/17/2020

Influenza B viruses caused early outbreaks and have been the most common flu viruses nationally so far this season.



These viruses can cause severe illness in all age groups, including children.



Protect yourself and your family today with a flu vaccine.

MMWR
bit.ly/FluLA2020
WWW.CDC.GOV

[CDC Health Advisory](#) on elevated influenza activity

There is still plenty of flu vaccine to order through the VCVF and VAVP programs!

Share your Success Story

Be Featured in the Vermont Immunization Bulletin!

Share your practice's success stories and you may be featured in an upcoming issue of the Bulletin!

Schedules and Recommendations

Check back next month!

Research and Resources

Article: Anti-vaccine stereotypes are misleading. Here's who's really most likely to resist vaccines.

Most Americans have positive attitudes about the MMR vaccine, but some groups are more concerned about risks than others, according to a new [Pew Research Center report](#). The report indicates it's not politics that divide U.S. opinion on vaccinations — but race, age, income level and education. Black and Hispanic Americans are more likely to say MMR vaccine risks are high, and preventive health benefits are low. People who are younger, poorer and less educated also tend to express more skeptical attitudes of the vaccine. read the article [here](#).

We want to make the Vermont Immunization Bulletin as informative and engaging as possible. We'd love your input on how we can improve.

Share Feedback and Suggestions

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