



## Massachusetts Adult Immunization Coalition Meeting

**MA Adult Immunization Coalition  
Virtual Meeting, June 15, 2021 - 6:30 - 8:30pm**

### MAIC Meeting Minutes

#### Virtual Meeting, 42 Attendees

| #  | First Name | Last Name | Organization                              |
|----|------------|-----------|---|
| 1  | Saleh      | Abbas     | JSI                                       |
| 2  | Susanna    | Bachle    | Sanofi Pasteur                            |
| 3  | Eric       | Bevans    | Merck                                     |
| 4  | Carmen     | Brown     | JSI-MDPH                                  |
| 5  | Alexandra  | Burke     | JSI                                       |
| 6  | Brooke     | Cardoso   | Seqirus                                   |
| 7  | Lynne      | Chase     | Healthcentric Advisors                    |
| 8  | Ted        | Clark     | MDPH                                      |
| 9  | Joyce      | Cohen     | MDPH                                      |
| 10 | Laurie     | Courtney  | MA DPH                                    |
| 11 | George     | Coutros   | sanofi                                    |
| 12 | John       | Crowley   | GlaxoSmithKline                           |
| 13 | Kim        | Daly      | Merck                                     |
| 14 | Anthony    | Desmond   | Shaw's Osco Pharmacy                      |
| 15 | Melissa    | Enos      | Executive Office of Elder Affairs         |
| 16 | James      | Fuccione  | Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative |
| 17 | Jeanmerli  | Gonzalez  | Lowell Community Health Center            |
| 18 | Donna      | Hampton   | University of Massachusetts Dartmouth     |



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| 19 | Seth         | Heacock          | Moderna                                   |
| 20 | Olga         | Hennion          | Moderna                                   |
| 21 | Angela       | Kramer           | Ludlow Board Health                       |
| 22 | Susan        | Lett             | MA DPH                                    |
| 23 | Larry        | Madoff           | Dph                                       |
| 24 | Angel        | Maldonado Tejada | JSI                                       |
| 25 | Mary         | McKenzie         | ANA Mass                                  |
| 26 | Cynthia      | McReynolds       | MCAAP Immunization Initiative             |
| 27 | Lauren       | Meyers           | Syneos Health                             |
| 28 | Nassira      | Nicola           | Massachusetts Department of Public Health |
| 29 | Kristen      | Oliveira         | Pfizer                                    |
| 30 | Joelle       | Santucci         | Seqirus Flu Vaccines                      |
| 31 | Sherry       | Schilb           | Sanofi Pasteur                            |
| 32 | Amy          | Sgueglia         | JSI                                       |
| 33 | Abigail      | Sporer           | Seqirus                                   |
| 34 | Joseph (Joe) | Stone            | Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  |
| 35 | Pejman       | Talebian         | MDPH - Immunization Division              |
| 36 | Tim          | Temple           | Pfizer Vaccines                           |
| 37 | Elizabeth    | Thoburn          | Pfizer                                    |
| 38 | Gloria       | Thorington       | Healthcentric Advisors                    |
| 39 | Joanne       | Walsh            | Seqirus                                   |
| 40 | Theodora     | Wohler           | Mass. Dept of Public Health               |
| 41 | Michele      | Wojtowicz        | UMass Amherst                             |



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| 42 | Pam | Worthington | MDPH |
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### Welcome - Amy Sgueglia, MAIC

[MAIC website](#), [MAIC events page](#), [MAIC Resources page](#)

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### COVID Vaccine information - Susan Lett, MDPH

- Brief Flu update
  - Update on Covid Vaccine Recommendations
    - Check the websites for latest guidance and information
  - Covid-19 Gateway page extremely helpful, has helpful information for health providers and workers
  - Recommends to bookmark these sites, have provider information, recipient information, vaccine effectiveness, different toolkits that will help
  - CDC healthcare provide training and education landing page: has role based ways to be trained depending on role
  - Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of Covid-19 Vaccines currently authorized in the United States
- **Vaccine Updates**
  - Can begin to give Pfizer vaccines at 12 years of age
  - Vaccines not interchangeable
    - Safety and efficacy of mixed series not evaluated
  - Covid-19 vaccines and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing
- **ACIP reaffirmed recs for use of the Janssen vaccine, with warning that it may result in blood clots, primarily for women aged 18-49**
  - Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Syndrome (TTS): people with a history of an episode of an immune-mediated syndrome should be offered another Covid-19 vaccine
  - Considerations for use of the Janssen Covid-19 vaccine: people with risk factors for VTE or prior history of thromboses not associated with thrombocytopenia are unlikely to be at increased risk for TTS
- People who take aspirin or anticoagulants can keep taking if part of routine, avoid before vaccine if not part of regular routine
- **In summary**
  - TTS is rare, clinically serious and life threatening, potential causal associated with J&J vaccine
  - Symptoms onset occurs several days after vaccination, most cases are women aged 18-49
  - TTS does not appear associated with mRNA covid vaccines
- **Myocarditis and pericarditis after mRNA vaccine**



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- Consider when evaluating chest pain, dyspnea, or palpitations
- Most patients (around 81%) had full recovery of symptoms
- Early VSD suggest more cases after dose 2 vs dose 1
- CDC educational materials included
- Recognize, respond, and report anaphylaxis and other adverse events following covid-19 vaccination to VAERS
  - Report adverse events to VAERS
  - Participate in v-safe, encourage patients to participate
    - Vsafe: smartphone tool uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins
  - Communicate with patients on vaccine safety
  - CISA Project Covid-Vax

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### COVID Vaccine Update - Pejman Talebian, MDPH

- Fully vaccinated 4 million individuals in MA
  - 72% of vaccine eligible population
- Focusing on vaccine equity initiative

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### Summary of MDPH COVID-19 Ambassador Program

#### Nassira Nicola, MDPH

- Started in response to problem of:
  - vaccine misinformation,
  - mistrust of public health, government, and medical community
  - Frustration about the process
  - Few direct lines of communication
  - People who do have contact didn't feel confident answering questions
- Initially built community forum guide for community organizations that wanted to host forums on covid-19 vaccine
- **Real hands on solution: Vaccine Ambassador Program.**
  - DPH staff who can speak at community-led events
  - Wide range of background, many offices, geographical ties, diversity
  - Help provide clear information about vaccine, build trust, dispel misinformation, encourage uptake, share info back with DPH
  - **The results**
    - 50 completed community forums
    - Approximately 3000 people reached
  - How to request an ambassador: form on [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov)
    - Give as much information as possible



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### Vaccine Confidence Project and MAIC

#### Cynthia McReynolds, MCAAP

- The Vaccine Confidence Project
  - Statewide initiative of the MDPH and MCAAP, started in 2018
  - Goal: to increase vaccine confidence throughout Massachusetts
- Used school immunization data to identify which areas might be more susceptible to vaccine-preventable diseases
- Project initially focused on Western Massachusetts
- Communicate with Confidence resource developed with tools to communicate with vaccine hesitant parents
- 2021: MAIC joins the project, address vaccine hesitant adults
  - Seek to identify additional partners for collaboration
  - Develop community outreach model that can be used to increase pediatric and adult confidence in vaccines

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### MAIC's collaboration with MA Health Aging Collaborative

#### James Fuccione, MHAC

#### Amy Sgueglia, MAIC

- Funded by the tufts health plan foundation
- Developed one-pager about the covid-19 vaccine
  - Translated into Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Mandarin, Russian, Arabic, and Vietnamese
- Able to connect local aging service access points to be on site
- Distributed to many organizations, on social media
- Goal is to raise awareness about other immunizations as well

Question (Nassira): Would it be useful to send it along with in-home vaccinators, on the assumption that the people they're seeing are more likely to need the other resources?

Answer (Amy): absolutely

*Suggestions for other languages: Hindu, Khmer*

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### Conference Update

#### Amy Sgueglia

- 26th annual conference recap: 4/13/2020
  - 247 total attendees
  - 6 breakout sessions
  - Panel discussion about vaccinating college students
  - 155 participants responded to evaluation



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- Most attendees in private practice
- High satisfaction rate (all but 4 rated it as good or excellent)

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### Discussion: Routine Vaccination - Catching Up Adults

Amy Sgueglia

- [https://padlet.com/amy\\_sgueglia/ktdljez53ksq5f92](https://padlet.com/amy_sgueglia/ktdljez53ksq5f92)
- Strategy to catch up adults on their vaccines
  - Community visits a strategy to catch up adults on their vaccines
  - Reminder Recalls
  - Registry running concurrently as they're doing data verification in order to give firm suggestions on what vaccines they need
  - Discussing at every opportunity
- Is there a need for education for providers around getting patients up to date on routine vaccination?
- Suggestion for specialists to refer patients to PCP for vaccination
- Susan: challenging for specialists to do so, pharmacies are helpful, that's a place where they can go and doesn't require a referral.
- Theodora: a specialized time for a drive-up clinic. Even if adult goes to PCP for non-vaccine related reasons, important for PCP to review immunization history
- Nassira: difficult to get earned media interviews, unsure of any purchased media strategies for radio and routine vaccines. Not out of question, though
- Susan: suggestion for tv ads, people talking about their experience with the covid-19 vaccine

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### Immunization Updates from the field - MAIC members

- Abigail Sporer- Sequiris: recently completed phase 2 RCT testing influenza vaccine among children aged 2-18 against pcr confirmed flu, efficacy was consistent throughout.
- Tim Temple - Pfizer: getting word out on adult immunization: WGBH has just hired the first ever chief equity officer, an interesting connection between Dr. Lett and Chief equity officer
- Mary McKenzie: raised concern about specialist referring back to PCP since an appointment still needs to be made

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### Other news/Future topics/Next meeting - Amy Sgueglia, MAIC Coalition Facilitator

- Next MAIC meeting (virtual) scheduled for Tuesday, September 28th, 2021 - 630-830p
  - Register [here](#)