



Massachusetts Adult Immunization Coalition Meeting

Virtual Meeting, January 26th, 2022 - 1:00p - 3:00p

MAIC Meeting Minutes

34 Virtual Attendees

	First Name	Last Name	Attendee type
1	Susanna	Bachle	Sanofi Vaccines
2	Alexandra	Burke	JSI
3	Brooke	Cardoso	CSL Seqirus
4	Victoria	Carroll	MDPH
5	Mary Ellen	Casey	Healthcentric Advisors
6	joyce	cohen	MDPH
7	Lori	Desmarais	Marion Health Dept
8	Anne-Marie	Devaney	Weymouth Health Dept
9	Lisa	Golden	Lowell DOH
10	Donna	Hampton	UMass Dartmouth
11	Seth	Heacock	Moderna
12	Olga	Hennion	Moderna
13	Amelia	Houghton	Worcester Division of Public Health
14	Jessica	Kerr	Town of Arlington Health Dept
15	Susan	Lett	MDPH
16	Julie	Long	Weymouth Health Dept
17	Elizabeth	Manley	Sanofi
18	Grant	McElwee	CMS
19	Mary	McKenzie	Retired
20	Cynthia	McReynolds	MCAAP
21	Judith	Melin	American College of Physicians
22	Christy	Norton	JSI
23	Ashley	Pavlakos	Tewksbury Health Dept
24	Brittany	Rahall	Commonwealth Medicine
25	Andrew	Rennekamp	CSL Seqirus
26	Meriem	Sadi	Lowell Health Dept
27	Amy	Sgueglia	JSI



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28	Joanne	Slincy	Town of Arlington
29	Joseph	Stone	CMS
30	Jill	Sweet	Tri-Town Health Dept
31	Pejman	Talebian	MDPH
32	Debra	Vescera	Blackstone Valley Partnership for Public Health
33	Michele	Wojtowicz	UMass Amherst
34	Pamela	Worthington	MDPH

Immunization Update

Christy Norton, MDPH

- General Immunization resources - [see slides](#)
- CDC releases two respiratory disease dashboards
 - Respiratory Virus Hospitalization Surveillance Network (RESP-NET)
 - COVID, Flu, RSV
 - National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP) emergency visit dashboard
- COVID-19 Vaccine resources
- Preliminary signal (Pfizer COVID-19 bivalent mRNA vaccine) for stroke for people >65 - VAs database of veterans
 - Key messages:
 - No change in guidance based on safety signal
 - Updated bivalent vaccines are safe and effective
- VRBPAC meeting
 - Discuss future of vaccination regimens addressing COVID-19
 - Potential for future 1 dose regimen, 2 dose for immunocompromised
 - Potential for annual vaccination campaign for COVID
- COVID-19 Vaccine schedule
- Influenza
 - Influenza Resources - see slides
 - Flu vaccines by age indication
 - Influenza in Massachusetts - wk of Jan 20
 - Severity is moderate, more A than B, vaccination rate (all ages) 43%
 - Seasonal activity continues to decline
 - Influenza vaccination recs
 - Routine annual influenza vacc is recommended for for all persons aged >6 mo who do not have contraindications
 - Best to get vaccinated before flu begins spreading in your community
 - sept/oct best, but you can still go now!



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- Adults >65 yrs
 - Recommended: HD-IIV4, RIV4, aIIV4
 - If not available, any other age appropriate flu vaccine should be used
- Monkeypox = Mpox
 - Mpox resources
 - CDC & WHO changes Monkeypox terminology to Mpox
 - JYNNEOS Vaccine
 - Intradermal or subcutaneous
 - For every 1 illness among people were fully vaccinated (2 doses) there were 10 illnesses among people who were unvaccinated
- MDPH Immunization Division resources

Questions & Answers for Immunization Update:

Q: Can you describe what a safety signal is?

A: Increase in number of cases, looking at number of days from vaccination. Also look at VAERS (self reported) data, physician reported data + large data bases, local, state. Are you seeing an increase in rates/elevation in numbers?

If signal is only occurring in one place (isolated) could be other factors

Q: Is there any bivalent vaccine coming out that is not mRNA based? Due to allergies etc

A: Not right now. For certain individuals, Novovax (monovalent) can only get if not have rec'd any other booster doses.

Q: Is there a rec for adults to get a 2nd flu vaccine in winter for adults who are immunocompromised?

A: Joyce - no current rec for 2nd dosing. Not a standard practice.

A: AndrewR - one guideline from American Transplant Society, immunocompromised to get 2 doses. But this is not standard rec

Q: When to boost adults >65 if they have received a bivalent booster?

A: Bivalent booster is the current booster option. No other vaccine needed at this point

Q: Is EVUSHELD (a course of injected antibodies) currently recommended for severely immunocompromised people?

A: [FDA 1/26/23](#) - Data show Evusheld is unlikely to be active against certain SARS-CoV-2 variants, which make up more than 90% of current US infections. Recommend to mask, stay aware of what level of protection is needed to be safe.

A: From MDPH Weekly bulletin 2/1/23

[Evusheld no longer authorized for use in the United States](#)



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As of January 26, 2023, tixagevimab/cilgavimab (EVUSHELD), a combination of two monoclonal antibodies, is [not currently authorized](#) for use in the United States. EVUSHELD was previously recommended for pre-exposure prophylaxis to supplement vaccine protection; however, SARS-CoV-2 variants currently circulating in the United States are [resistant to EVUSHELD™](#).

Q: If someone received a primary shot and accidentally received a bivalent booster shot as a second shot, would you vaccinate a third time? and with what?

A: Look at the [Vaccine administration errors and deviations \(Appendix D\)](#) documents - see if should repeat dose, and info for VAERS if reportable or not

A: Christy - Bivalent vaccine incorrectly administered for the primary series

Bivalent Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine: Do not repeat dose.

Bivalent Moderna vaccine: Repeat 1 monovalent dose immediately (no minimum interval)§ because administration of the booster dose will result in a lower-than-authorized dose.

MA Vaccine Confidence Project - www.massvaccineconfidenceproject.org

Cynthia McReynolds, MCAAP

- Mission to increase vaccine confidence throughout MA so that children and adults will be fully vaccinated against vaccine-preventable diseases
- Identify challenges to vaccine confidence -
- Project activity
 - MCVP website launched
 - Develop provider education, build partnerships and dev activities which promote vax confidence
 - Webinars, Vaccine provider training, MDPH maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting prog, MA offices for refugees and immigrants
 - Webinar recordings posted to MCAAP website links
 - MIAP conference presentation
- 2023 Project activity
 - Finalize goals
 - Launch and promote project website
 - Great Resource library by audience and topics
 - Biannual review of website
 - Provider education
 - MCAAP II Webinars, MA Adult Imm conf, MDPH Immunization updates, Karen Ernst - Voice for Vaccines speaker
 - Build partnerships which promote vaccine confidence
 - WIC Vaccine confidence training (Jan)
 - Provider activities for National Immunization Awareness month (Aug) and Natl Health Center Week
 - Cape and Islands



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- [March 9 Immunization Schedule Webinar Registration](#)

MA Adult Immunization Conference Updates

Amy Sgueglia

- 28th Annual MA Adult Immunization Conference, Virtual
- Save the date: April 4, 2023
- Conference Website: <https://cvent.me/e8vvdP>
- MA Adult Immunization conference website and registration are **open**
- Free registration for first time attendees - free code available through Contact Us button on conference website

Resources discussion

Amy Sgueglia

CDC RISE

- How to best disseminate these materials?
 - Currently seeing a decrease in immunizations due to pandemic
 - Are providers reading these materials?
 - Are newsletter/listservs a good way to share info? What could MAIC do to better get info out
 - MAIC newsletter is great option
 - Share some listservs across MAIC members or forward newsletters to other lists
 - Suggestion for CDC presenter on this topic - req to CDC speakers bureau
 - Are there other groups that would like to receive this info? If not, how do we get this info to providers and get their attention? What are providers' needs?
 - Mary McKenzie:
 - Nursing Groups: Neonatal, AcuteCare, Nurses union, Public health nurses, Nursing Home groups
 - Outreach to MA Teachers Association, principals or supers
 - Black Nurses of MA
 - Cynthia McReynolds
 - Invite organizations to present at MAIC conf or MAIC mtg
 - Seth Heacock
 - Employer Coalitions are speaking a lot to this topic. They have their own network of members, virtual and live meetings etc. They are speaking a lot to prevention and wellness since COVID in regards to employee education. There are local organizations in New England
 - Mary Ellen Casey



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- Suggestion for MAIC to do in person (safely) information tables at community based organizations? Senior centers, YMCA, Family Resident Councils at LTC
- Donna Hampton
 - To check if she can get a MA list from ACHA, American College Health Association
- MAIC created resources with The National Association of Health Service Executives
 - Did You Know...? Campaign aimed at specific communities in Boston
 - New resources
 - Immunization checklist: covid, flu, pneumonia
 - Chronic conditions checklist: Asthma, diabetes, kidney disease ...
 - Did you know? [Tiktok videos](#)
 - Communication Toolkit

Immunization Reports from the Field

- COVID/Flu Updates
- Manufacturer updates
 - Olga Hennion, Moderna:
 - Interim analysis: RSV candidate Phase 2 & 3 Clinical Trials
 - Ongoing trial, recruiting 37k
 - Showing 83.7% efficacy for >65 yo
 - Webinar: [COVID 19 Bivalent Vaccines, addressing myths and misconceptions](#) - Feb 1, 12p EST
 - [Omicron UK study](#): A Randomized Trial Comparing Omicron-Containing Boosters with the Original Covid-19 Vaccine mRNA-1273
 - Andrew Rennekamp
 - Webinar: [Influenza Vaccine Update – What’s New with Flu?](#)
 - Feb 2, Maine Health Association
 - Mary Ellen Casey - Healthcentric Advisors
 - [4 session small talk series](#) - vaccine hesitancy and misinformation
 - Final webinar: [Immunization’s Role in Chronic Disease Management](#)
 - Feb 1, 12p, Registration Open

General Announcements:

- MAIC is currently recruiting for new members to the Conference Planning Committee - contact Amy or Alex for further information To suggest topics or to be a featured speaker at a future MAIC meeting, contact Amy at amy_sgueglia@jsi.com
- The next MAIC meeting will be virtual, in June 2023
- The April MA Adult Immunization Conference will be on April 5th - see our [conference website](#)
- A reminder to check out the [MAIC website](#) for any additional updates