



Massachusetts Adult Immunization Coalition Meeting

Virtual Meeting, June 13, 2023 - 1:00p - 3:00p

MAIC Meeting Minutes

26 Virtual Attendees

	First	Last	Organization
1	Kori	Agic	GSK
2	Susanna	Bachle	Pfizer
3	Keri	Ball	UMass Boston University Health Services
4	Alexandra	Burke	JSI
5	MaryEllen	Casey	Healthcentric Advisors
6	Joyce	Cohen	MDPH
7	John	Crowley	GSK
8	Melissa	Enos	EOEA
9	Angela	Fowler	MDPH
10	Lisa	Golden	Lowell Health Department
11	Michele	Goulet	Harbor Health Services, Inc.
12	Olga	Hennion	Moderna
13	Angela	Kramer	Ludlow Board of Health
14	Susan	Lett	
15	Ali	Lydon	Merck
16	Ann	Martin	Town of Randolph BOH
17	Cynthia	McReynolds	MCAAP
18	Kassandra	Mendez	Brockton Neighborhood Health Center
19	Lauren	Meyers	Syneos Health
20	Christy	Norton	JSI
21	Amy	Sgueglia	JSI
22	Shawn	Tingley	Novavax
23	Kristen	Van Epps	Moderna
24	Debra	Vescera	Blackstone Valley Partnership for Public Health
25	Lesa	Volpe	The Wellness Company
26	Pamela	Worthington	MDPH

Adult Immunization Update

Angela Fowler, MDPH

- [Immunization Update slides](#)



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- **COVID-19**
 - Dec 2019 started with pneumonia
 - Jan 2020 declared public health emergency
 - Economic toll \$14 trillion
 - 1,131,439 covid deaths, and 6 million+ hospitalizations
 - Vaccines became available in Dec 2020!
 - Orig monovalent 2 dose + booster
 - April 2023 - bivalent vaccines currently authorized
 - 2 mRNA vaccines available - Moderna, Pfizer, and 1 Protein subunit vaccine - Novavax, J&J no longer available in the US
 - CDC recommends >6mo receive at least 1 bivalent mRNA covid-19 vaccine
 - Unvaccinated or previously receiving only monovalent adults - Currently recommended 1 bivalent mRNA dose
 - Over >65, and/or immunocompromised (>12 yrs) can receive additional dose
- **Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)**
 - Annual outbreaks of respiratory illness in all age groups
 - 6,000-10,000 deaths per year due to RSV infection
 - RSV vaccine
 - Development of vaccines which block F glycoprotein from entering cells
 - 2 new RSV vaccines- single dose for adults >60 years old, reduces risk of getting RSV by 85-91%
 - GSK Arexvy
 - Pfizer Abrysvo
 - Indication from FDA for maternal vaccine after 24th week of pregnancy
 - Sanofi - Monoclonal antibody against F protein
 - To infants and young children which contributes to passive immunity
- **Hepatitis B**
 - 2.2 million live with it in US
 - Transmitted through direct contact with infected blood
 - In US intravenous drug use is most common form of infection
 - Previous approach to vaccinating adults was risk based
 - April 2022 - ACIP recommended expanding indicated range for Hep B vaccination to be 19-59 yrs to be universally vaccinated, and removes risk based need
 - Vaccines available - see slides for schedule and options (Recombivax HB, Engix-B, Heplisav-B, Twinrix, PreHevbrio)
 - 3 dose series, does not need to be restarted if schedule is interrupted
 - **CDC New recommendation 2023** - Universal once in lifetime Hep B screening for adults >18 years, new screen for each new pregnancy, other risk-based testing
- **Mpox**
 - Unprecedented global outbreak in summer 2022, peaked quickly and then waned
 - May 2023 cluster of Mpox in Chicago



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- Still ongoing risk for further outbreaks - continued vigilance and effort to curb
- Outbreak in US disproportionately affecting MSM, spread through sexual contact, lesions in central areas
- Vaccine - JYNNEOS
 - Live virus vaccine - licenses in 2019 for smallpox and Mpox in adults
 - Can be pre or post exposure prophylaxis, intradermally or subcutaneously
 - Vaccine strategy is more effective if receive 2 doses, 4 weeks apart
 - Safe for immunocompromised
 - No general population routine vaccination, more for pre/post exposure or high risk key populations
- **Pneumococcus**
 - Adults - Pneumonia, sinusitis, meningitis
 - Invasive pneumo disease - young and adult 65+ at most risk
 - In 2023 2 new pneumococcal conjugate vaccines were licensed for use in US adults: PCV15 (Vaxneuvance, Merck) and PCV20 (Pevnar 20, Pfizer)
 - Vaccine recommendations:
 - PCV polysaccharide attached to a protein - PCV15+ PPSV23 pneumovax vaccine one year later, or use one dose PCV20
 - 4 vaccines currently available, 2 Pfizer, 2 Merck
 - Recs 65+ receive PCV
 - Consider updating adults that recd PCV13+ PPSV30 - rec update to receive PCV20 5 yrs after prior vaccination
 - Can co administer pneumo vaccines with influenza vaccine
- **Vaccinator resources**
 - CDC vaccine schedules app for healthcare providers
 - PneumoRecs VaxAdvisor
 - Immunize.org

Questions:

Q: Advice for adults that are immunocompromised that are eligible for COVID booster now, would that not make them eligible for the fall vaccine? Amy Sgueglia

A: Recommends to get a dose now, need at least a 2 month interval before any other dose. So would still be eligible in the fall as well

Q: Can the pneumococcal vaccine be given at the same time as flu and COVID vaccines? (So all three at once?) Mary Ellen Casey

A: Not a prohibition against doing pneumococcal and COVID vaccine at the same time. Suggest to double check this

Q: With the introduction of the PCV20 vaccine, is there a use case for PCV15/PPSV23 for patients who have not been previously vaccinated? Michele Goulet



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A: PCV20 is the most straightforward option, could do PCV15 and a year later PPSV23. One and done is most preferable strategy

[MA Vaccine Confidence Project](http://www.massvaccineconfidenceproject.org) - 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
- Initiated in 2018, collab between DPH Imm div, AAP, MAIC
- MVCP project team
- Goals: identify challenges to vaccine confidence in areas of the state with lower than state average immunization rates
- Activities: build partnerships, develop provider education, public outreach
- Immunization Partners and Champions
- Spring 2023 Provider Education and Events
- VCP Newsletter, MCAAP Forum
- Upcoming activities: Newsletter All Cape school training day, MIAP 2023 October conference

[MA Adult Immunization Conference Summary](#)

Amy Sgueglia

- 28th Annual MA Adult Immunization Conference, Virtual, April 4, 2023
- [Conference Website](#)
- [Free registration for first time attendees](#)
- 505 registrants, highest attendance in conference history
- Overall positive remarks on speakers, run of show, online platform, conference
- Many requests to return in person - this is the plan for 2024 conference

GSK RSV Vaccine

John Crowley

- Impact of underlying conditions and RSV
 - Older adults with UC are at risk for severe RSV infection
 - Peaks in Sept, Autumn
- AREXVY GSK Vaccine for RSV
 - Adjuvanted vaccine - for 60+ yrs old
 - Is indicated for active immunizations for the prevention of lower respiratory tract disease caused by RSV in >60 yo adults
 - Reconstituted vaccine
 - Intramuscular, do not freeze, refrigerated pre reconstitution



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- June 21-23 meeting to discuss adding vaccine into Adult vaccine schedule

Immunization Reports from the Field

- COVID/Flu Updates
- Manufacturer updates
 - Olga, Moderna - WHO Discussion on COVID strain to include in fall vaccine, most likely be XBB1 subvariants of Omicron
 - Kristen Van Epps, Moderna - responsible for state procurement for COVID vaccines - Moderna is contracting out with a company that is reaching out to request pre-booking COVID vaccines for the fall
 - John, GSK - GSK looking at number of vaccines missed during the pandemic and has partnered with TeleVox working with doctor's office/health departments to send communications (electronic or postcards) to get adults updated on all vaccines, not just GSK vaccines
- Successes
 - Mary Ellen Casey, Healthcentric Advisors - Have portfolios on various topics that are public facing. A new one available on Immunization- that is ready to share
 - Available on Facebook and Linked In
 - She will share links to the Immunization Portfolio

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, on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 1-3p
- A reminder to check out the [MAIC website](#) for any additional updates