



Massachusetts Adult Immunization Coalition Meeting

Virtual Meeting, October 1, 2024 - 1:00pm - 3:00pm

MAIC Meeting Minutes

35 Virtual Attendees

	Name	Organization
1	Rich Aceto	Novavax
2	Susanna Bachle	Sanofi
3	Rich Baker	MAIC
4	Tess Bub	Sanofi
5	Alexandra Burke	MAIC
6	Marla Campbell	AstraZeneca
7	Brooke Cardoso	Seqirus
8	Mary Ellen Casey	Healthcentric Advisors
9	Stacy Ciccolini	Leominster Health Department
10	Ted Clark	MA DPH
11	Joyce Cohen	MA DPH
12	Luke Cunniff	Merck
13	Angela Fowler	MA DPH
14	Alyson Frigon	Mass League of Community Health Centers
15	Donna Hampton	UMass
16	Katie Kelley	AstraZeneca
17	Jessica Kerr	Town of Arlington
18	Angela Kramer	Ludlow Board of Health
19	Brett Lown	Dynavax
20	Ali Lydon	Merck
21	Grant McElwee	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
22	Cynthia McReynolds	MCAAP, MVCP
23	Kassandra Mendez	Brockton Neighborhood Health Center
24	Andrew Rennekamp	CSL Seqirus
25	Leslie Salas Karnes	Mass League of Community Health Centers
26	Amy Sgueglia	MAIC
27	Christine Southworth	Independent RN Wellness Facilitator
28	Kathleen Talbot	Pfizer
29	Elizabeth Valett	American Cancer Society



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30	Kristen Van Epps	Quabbin Health District
31	Debra Vescera	Blackstone Valley Partnership for Public Health (BVPPH)
32	Kelly Welch	MVCP, Team Maureen
33	Amanda Wilhoit	MAIC
34	Michele Wojtowicz	UMass
35	Pamela Worthington	MA DPH

Adult Immunization Update

Angela Fowler, MD, MPH - MA Department of Public Health

[Presentation Slides](#)

Fall Respiratory Virus Season

- Lots of constraints on hospital capacity in the 2023-2024 respiratory season
- CDC forecast says they expect this season to be about the same/potentially a bit lower than last year's season

COVID-19

- Coming off of a summer surge
 - Have been seeing a surge in the summer and a larger surge in the winter time
- Over the summer, there were 131 COVID deaths in the state of Massachusetts
- In adult populations, giving an updated COVID vaccine in 2023-2024 protected against hospitalization
- Last year's vaccine was effective in protecting hospitalization among immunocompromised populations
- June 2024 ACIP recommends 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccines as authorized or approved by FDA in persons aged 6 months or older
 - mRNA vaccine
 - Protein subunit vaccine
- Last year, less than 25% of adults received the COVID-19 vaccine
 - Uptake for those older than 65 was ~60%

Influenza

- Recommended for all persons aged 6 months and older without contraindications
- ~40% uptake of vaccine over the past few years
- FDA has approved Nasal Spray Influenza Vaccine (Flu Mist) for Self- or Caregiver- Administration
 - First influenza vaccine that does not need to be administered by a health care provider
 - Same nasal spray flu vaccine you can already get at a pharmacy or doctor's office
 - For ages 2-49
 - Not appropriate for pregnant persons or those who are immunocompromised
 - Home delivery anticipated to be available for the 2025-2026 flu season



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- Questions about how this will be recorded in people's medical records/MIIS

Bird Flu/H5N1 Situation

- Multistate outbreak in dairy cows was first reported on March 25, 2024
- In April, CDC began reporting sporadic human cases in people

RSV

- ACIP recommendation for all adults 75 years and older to receive a single dose
 - Adults 60-74 who are at increased risk of severe disease to receive a single dose
- In May, FDA licensed a third RSV vaccine, mResvia (mRNA vaccine)
- Abrysvo is recommended for one lifetime dose for pregnant people, infants born after subsequent pregnancies should receive nirsevimab after delivery
- 75% vaccine effectiveness for adults aged 75 years or older
- Only ~33% of adults in over 75 population have been vaccinated against RSV

Pneumococcal Disease

- Highest incidence in winter and early spring
- Hospitalizes about 150,000 people in the US each year
- Vaccination is recommended for the following adults:
 - Aged 65 years or older
 - Adults aged 19-64 years with certain underlying conditions or risk factors
- New Pneumococcal vaccine for adults = PCV21 (Capvaxive, Merck)
 - Includes 11 serotypes not included in PCV20 and excludes 10 serotypes included in PCV20
 - Serotypes in PCV21 cause approximately 85% of invasive pneumococcal disease in US adults aged 65 and older
 - ACIP voted to recommend PCV21 as an option for adults aged 19 years and older who currently have a recommendation to receive a dose of PCV

Meningococcal Disease

- On August 19, FDA approved a new dosing schedule for GSK meningococcal B (MenB) vaccine (Bexsero) that matches the schedule for Pfizer MenB vaccine (Trumenba), with 2 doses given 6 months apart or 3 doses given at 0, 1-2, and 6-month intervals
- GSK has a meningococcal vaccine under FDA review

Mpox

- Global outbreak began in 2022, still seeing small number of cases in many countries today
- Outbreak starting in 2022 primarily impacted MSM
- Smallpox and Monkeypox vaccine
 - Approved by the FDA in 2019
 - Both partial and full vaccination with JYNNEOS showed effectiveness against mpox, regardless of administration route
- Only 25% of the population that is at risk is estimated to have been fully vaccinated
- JYNNEOS is recommended for people aged 18 years of age and older at increased risk of mpox



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- Clad 1b outbreak in central African region (DRC)
 - As of September 18, 2024, >21,000 suspected clade 1 mpox cases in the DRC, includes greater than 700 deaths
 - Available data indicate that it is predominately spreading through intimate or sexual contact between adults
- CDC Health Update recommending vaccination with the 2-dose JYNNEOS vaccine series to any adult, regardless of sexual orientation/gender identity if:
 - Traveling to a country where clade 1 outbreaks are occurring

Questions:

- **“Where is the DRC?”**
 - Democratic Republic of Congo in Central Africa, some Clade 1 has been seen in surrounding countries.
- **“Can Flu Mist be self-administered this year?”**
 - Anticipating rolling out self-administered Flu Mist next year. FDA says it can be administered, but in terms of logistics
 - **Marla Campbell from AstraZeneca** - Labeling has changed for self-administration. However, there is not yet a means to get it to patients at home. Logistics for the rollout will not be put in place until next year.

H5 Influenza Pandemic Preparedness

Andrew Rennekamp, PhD - CSL Seqirus Vaccines

- Humans can be infected with animal influenza viruses through aerosols, fomites or contaminated water
- For example, virus can be transmitted through a bird, to a pig, to a human
- People with close or prolonged unprotected contact with infected animals are at increased risk
- Reassortant viruses emerge when two different influenza viruses infect the same cell
 - Acquisition of animal-derived HA and/or NA by human influenza viruses through reassortment can result in the development of pandemic viruses
- Three important activities that providers can participate in to prepare for pandemic:
 - Preparedness strategies in place, including pandemic influenza preparedness frameworks
 - Robust surveillance systems
 - Having seasonal influenza vaccine production processes in place → transferable to pandemic vaccine production
- Federal government preparedness includes supporting research and development practices
- Surveillance of zoonotic influenza viruses:
 - WHO continuously monitors avian and other zoonotic influenza viruses through the Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS)
 - Can see there has been an increase in avian influenza activity in wild birds and domestic birds



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- Clade 2.3.4.4b is being detected in states across the country
- Haven't seen human to human evolution yet
- Current situation
 - More cases this year in previous years of human transmission
 - Reported infections in 238 dairy herds across at least 14 states
 - Colorado, Texas, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, etc.
 - Human cases have been detected in Texas, Michigan, and Colorado
 - All cases except one had a history of exposure to cattle or poultry that were presumed to be infected
 - USDA has issued a federal order requiring testing for and reporting of HPAI under certain conditions in livestock
 - Working to update vaccine to include 2.3.4.4B clade

Questions:

- **Is there any thought or movement towards vaccinating cows/poultry?**
 - I unfortunately do not know the answer to this. As a company we do not make veterinary vaccines, but that is a great question.

Community Health Worker Training

Rich Baker - MAIC

[Training Page](#)

- Training produced by community health workers for community health workers, sponsored by Vaccinate Your Family
- Self-paced training includes 4 modules, as well as access to continuing online Community of Practice support meetings. It is available in English and Spanish and continuing education units (CEUs) for P/CHWs are available for free
- Learning Modules include:
 - Past, Present, and Future of Vaccination
 - Nuts and Bolts of Vaccines
 - Addressing Social Determinants of Health and Barriers to Vaccination
 - How to Debunk Misinformation and Bolster Vaccine Confidence
- First 25 people who register through our link will receive an implementation package with:
 - Amazon gift card
 - Tote bag
 - Stickers/swag
 - English and Spanish versions of immunization schedules
- Please make sure to register using [this link](#)!



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Massachusetts Vaccine Confidence Project (MVCP) Updates

Kelly Welch - MVCP, Team Maureen

[Presentation Slides](#)

- MVCP started in 2018, it is a collaboration between MAIC, MCAAP, and the Immunization Division at MDPH
- Have attended numerous events:
 - International Festival in Hyannis, Bay State Health Centers, MA PTA Annual Conference
- Have exhibited at:
 - MAPHN
 - Mass League of Community Health Centers - Community Health Institute
 - Tufts Dental Continuing Education Training
- National Health Center Week Campaign
- Respiratory “Call to Action” letter to MA HCPs
 - Links to resources for respiratory season
 - Includes strategies for increasing immunization uptake

29th Annual MIAP Pediatric Immunization Skills Building Conference

Cynthia McReynolds - MCAAP, MVCP

[Conference Website](#)

- Wednesday, October 30, at the DCU Center, Worcester
- Conference registration is still open on the conference website!
- There are a few exhibitor slots left if you are interested

Updates/Questions from the Field

MAIC Members

- **Kathleen Talbot, Pfizer:** Update for Respiratory Season/Maternal RSV Vaccine.
 - Pfizer Resources: For eligible patients, this tool estimates the ABRYVVO[®] vaccination window based upon estimated pregnancy due date, season, and location, consistent with the approved ABRYVVO indication and CDC recommendation.
<https://abryvomaternal.pfizerpro.com/resources/maternal-rsv-vaccine-planner>