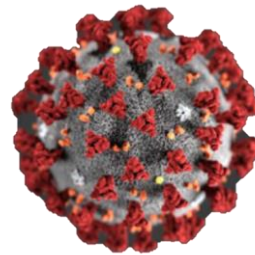


New Hampshire COVID-19 Education and Childcare Partner Call

February 2, 2022



Education and Childcare Partner Call Schedule

- 2/16 and 3/2 calls are cancelled
- A call is scheduled for Wed 2/23 from 3:30-4:30 pm
- Regular call schedule will resume 3/16 (the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month)
- Webinar/call information:
 - Zoom link: <https://nh-dhhs.zoom.us/j/98062195081>
 - Webinar ID: 980 6219 5081
 - Passcode: 197445
 - Telephone: 646-558-8656

COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 6 Months Through 4 Years of Age

Pfizer and BioNTech Initiate Rolling Submission for Emergency Use Authorization of Their COVID-19 Vaccine in Children 6 Months Through 4 Years of Age Following Request From U.S. FDA

02.01.2022

- *With pediatric COVID-19 cases surpassing 10 million and at the request of the FDA, the companies have submitted available data on the safety and efficacy of two 3 µg doses as part of a three-dose primary series for this age group to address the urgent public health need*
- *Companies plan to submit additional data on a third 3 µg dose in this age group in the coming months*
- *If authorization is granted, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine would be the first COVID-19 vaccine available for pediatric populations under 5 years of age*

“If two doses are authorized, parents will have the opportunity to begin a COVID-19 vaccination series for their children while awaiting potential authorization of a third dose.”

<https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/pfizer-and-biontech-initiate-rolling-submission-emergency>

NH's COVID-19 Surveillance 2.0

Background

- The increasing use of at-home COVID-19 tests bypasses existing laboratory-reporting mechanisms established to track diseases
- Manual reporting of persons who test positive for COVID-19 at home (through schools, providers, etc.) is unsustainable and not a good use of limited resources
- The Omicron surge has also led to a large number of infections that has overwhelmed the people who are manually reporting infections

Transition to Sustainable Surveillance

- Therefore, we are no longer asking schools and child care programs to individually report each person diagnosed with COVID-19 (i.e., no more submitting Case Report Forms)
- Healthcare providers conducting point-of-care testing (e.g., antigen tests) still should report test results through established mechanisms (see [NH DPHS Rapid/POC Test Reporting Guidance](#))
- COVID-19 Incidence will be tracked based on test reporting, including laboratory-based PCR tests and provider collected point-of-care tests

Transition to Sustainable Surveillance

- We are asking K-12 schools and colleges/universities to report an aggregate number of COVID-19 infections in students and staff once a week through an online form
 - School COVID-19 data will be reported weekly (to replace the current school data dashboard)
 - K-12 schools are also asked simplified absenteeism numbers, and is meant to replace the older absenteeism reporting form
 - Aggregate reporting is not necessary for child care programs or other businesses/organizations
 - The online form will go-live at the beginning of next week, and weekly reports should begin at the end of next week (week ending 2/11)

January 24, 2022

“Public Health Agencies Transitioning Away from Universal Case Investigation and Contact Tracing for Individual Cases of COVID-19”



JOINT STATEMENT

https://stagingprep.wengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/CICT_Partner_Statement_01_24_2022.pdf



Cluster/Outbreak Reporting Changes

- Routine contact tracing to identify a cluster or outbreak is not recommended
- There is no longer a need/ask for schools or child care programs to routinely report all clusters or outbreaks to NH DPHS
- School clusters and outbreaks will no longer be included in the public data reporting
- However, if you suspect an outbreak (i.e., uncontrolled transmission) and need assistance, please contact NH DPHS for additional assessment and guidance

School & Child Care Toolkit

- The old 25-page COVID-19 School & Child Care Toolkit is being retired
- This will be replaced by a shortened 3-page guidance document “[Responding to COVID-19 in K-12 Schools and Child Care Facilities](#)”
- The School and Child Care COVID-19 Website is being updated to remove old guidance
- Schools and child care programs can refer to CDC’s guidance for implementing prevention strategies

Refer to NH's Isolation & Quarantine Guidance

- Implement NH's [Isolation & Quarantine Recommendations](#)
 - The primary difference between NH's and CDC's isolation and quarantine guidance is that NH only requires quarantine for household contacts who are NOT up-to-date on all recommended COVID-19 vaccines
- Refer also to NH's [Household Contact Exposure Flowchart for Deciding Quarantine](#)

Demonstration of Online Weekly Aggregate Reporting Form

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Q&A