



Communicable Disease Branch Local Health Department Monthly Webinar Key Points – September 10, 2024

The North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH) Communicable Disease Branch will be releasing key points that include information discussed on the monthly Tuesday Local Health Department call. Please use the information below as a summary of the topics presented on the call. As guidance changes, please use the most recent information provided. For questions, contact the NC DPH Communicable Disease Branch 24/7 Epidemiologist on Call at **919-733-3419**.

Important Updates

- Available online at [NC Communicable Disease Manual - Other Diseases of Public Health Significance \(ncdhhs.gov\)](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/nc-communicable-disease-manual)
- **New:** NCDHHS LHD Monthly Webinar 09-10-2024.pdf

Video recording: <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/1008181061/bff8969729>

Questions & Answers

Q. Does the VFC provide cover the MMR for the traveling infant 6-11 months?

A. Yes, if they are VFC eligible. That dose will not count as part of the 2-dose series so they will need to have a dose after 12 months of age following the minimum interval of 4 weeks between the doses.

Q. Many hospitals in our county are sending us all reportables regardless of county of residence. Could NC DPH put out a reminder for reporting to county of residence (unless out of state) if possible. I know this is allowed per General Statute, but a preference reminder to providers would be great.

A. Hospitals are only required to send reports of reportable conditions to the county in which the person was seen, not where they live. Please reach out to me via email directly so we can discuss - Vanessa Gailor vanessa.gailor@dhhs.nc.gov

§ 130A-135. Physicians to report.

A physician licensed to practice medicine who has reason to suspect that a person about whom the physician has been consulted professionally has a communicable disease or communicable condition declared by the Commission to be reported, shall report information required by the Commission to the local health director of the county or district in which the physician is consulted.

https://www.ncleg.net/enactedlegislation/statutes/html/bysection/chapter_130a/qs_130a-135.html

Q. Is there any word on CDC updating recommendations for exclusion of HCP who are Covid positive?

A. They have not released any updated guidance on this, these two documents continue to be the source for guidance in healthcare settings: <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/hcp/infection-control/guidance-risk-assessment-hcp.html> --and-- https://www.cdc.gov/covid/hcp/infection-control/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html

Q. Didn't receive an email reminder with meeting info/agenda for today. Are they still being sent out prior?
A. Yes, they are. Please send your contact information to Linda Dean linda.dean@dhhs.nc.gov to ensure you are on the list

Q. Will this presentation be sent out so it can be shared?
A. The Key Points will be sent out and all the associated media for this presentation will be on the NC CD Manual here https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/lhds/manuals/cd/other_diseases.html We send and post these each month.

Q. Will VFC cover Mpox for children <18 yrs of age?
A. JYNNEOS is available for VFC-eligible 18-year-olds at increased risk for Mpox disease. JYNNEOS is only FDA approved for 18 and older (<https://www.fda.gov/media/131078/download?attachment>). JYNNEOS is also available under an EUA for under 18 for high-risk individuals, primarily as part of PEP. However, VFC doses are approved for VFC eligible 18-year-olds only.

Q. Why can't these new inventory separation requirements wait until the new NCIR that allows us to account for the separate inventory? Why can't you just run the vaccine usage report that shows how many doses of State vaccine were given to those 19 and up, to account for how many doses are given to the 317 population? It's easy to visualize it when you run that report, so why not account for doses that way?

A. For accountability, it's critical that providers request 317 when ordering to ensure those doses are shipped from the correct funding source. Separating stock now will ensure that doses are going to the correct populations and help you prepare for the new NCIR.

Q. Regarding the county of residence reminder... I know that it is allowed and providers are not REQUIRED to do so; however, when providers fax medical records to us it is a huge burden to then send those to the resident county and assign the case to them. A preference reminder would be great, especially for those counties that are in the hospitals own region.

A. Please email me directly (vanessa.gailor@dhhs.nc.gov) so that we can discuss this. I understand that it can be cumbersome, but it is even more cumbersome for hospital systems to navigate each LHDs reporting mechanisms, which is part of the reason this law is in place. Most labs are feeding in electronically, creating the event in the county of residence, so I am not sure what you are being sent which is why I would like to discuss this offline. Please reach out so we can discuss. If this is an issue for other LHDs, please send me an email to let me know so that it can be discussed with others in the Epi section.

Q. Will the office hours for 317 tomorrow be recorded and shared?
A. Live answered.

Q. If a patient has been vaccinated for smallpox previously, should they be vaccinated with JYNNEOS in addition?
A. If you will please call the Nurse on Call line at 919-707-5575

Q. The client that has already received the two doses of Bexsero at 0 and 1 month, will need a third dose in 6 months?
A. Live answered

Q. Any rumors of updating Covid outbreak guidelines for LTCF?

Especially outbreak criteria and isolation timelines for residents given the changes to the public guidance?

A. We're not aware of updates right now. See the guidance for healthcare settings :

https://www.cdc.gov/covid/hcp/infection-control/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html

Next Meeting

Tuesday, 10/08/2024