Avian Influenza
- H5N1 strain
- Avian Influenza has affected wild and domestic fowl
  - Has now been detected in dairy cows
  - Unclear if cow to cow transmission is occurring
- On April 1st the CDC reported that someone exposed to an infected cow tested positive for the Avian Influenza (symptom was conjunctivitis)
  - CDC says the population risk at large was low
- No vaccine at this point in time

COVID
- Low surveillance level
- Wastewater levels are low
- 16 deaths in February and 10 in March

MPox
- Cases are in the 500s

Measles
- We are at a new high (97 cases currently)
  - In 2023 there were 58 cases
- HAN from the health department about this issue, testing, vaccines, surveillance, etc.
- Information for providers from VDH: https://www.healthvermont.gov/disease-control/measles/measles-information-providers

Overdose Prevention Centers
- Dr. Levine’s testimony on Overdose Prevention Centers

Environmental
- PCB Testing in Schools - Still going on, future remains uncertain
- EPA coming out with its new PFAS levels

Questions and Answers
Is the Commissioner aware of any upcoming changes with the covid vaccine for this next year?
ML: No one has telegraphed this yet. But it will be a different vaccine.

When did MMR become available? Recommendations for MMR adult vaccine?
ML: You need the vaccine if born in 1957 or later. It’s better safe than sorry to get the vaccine if you are unsure if you have received it.

Will Vermont be adopting the new EPA recommendations for “safe” PFAS levels? If yes, any thoughts about how long after the anticipated EPA announcement that might happen?
ML: We will be adopting whatever they say, but the levels may be greater than what we already have.

Information will be posted here: https://vtmd.org/thursday-public-health-updates
Comment on the Governor’s veto on S.18?
ML: I may not agree with how he frames his argument; it is consistent for him. Hoping to work together on future efforts.

Any comments on the current situation on syphilis
ML: Nationally, it is on an upswing and there are still concerns about Penicillin G. Locally, we continue to have no new congenital case and continue to be the lowest state with syphilis cases.

Our next call will be June 6, 2024

Zoom Information
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726253105?pwd=VkVuNTJ1ZFO2R3diSvdqlJ2ZG4yQT09
Meeting ID: 867 2625 3105 / Passcode: 540684
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Information will be posted here: https://vtmd.org/thursday-public-health-updates