

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
January 18, 2021

We Broke 10K

486 new infections reported statewide since Friday have pushed the aggregate COVID case total in Vermont to 10,220 since March. In the summer with low case counts this would have been unthinkable; unfortunately it is now the norm. The good news is that getting further removed from holiday celebrations, the numbers seems to be moderating a bit. Six new cases reported today in Addison County.

Next Week Septuagenarians Get in Line

The State will provide registration information for those 75 and older either later this week or by Monday, the 25th at the latest for the vaccinations as group 1-A winds down. The next group in the queue will be 70+ and then 65+. The following is a statement from VDH on the group after the 65ers go:

Dr. Levine announced that people who have certain high-risk health conditions will be able to receive the vaccine once vaccinations of the 65+ age groups are complete. These are medical conditions that put people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 as identified by the CDC. Severe illness is defined as hospitalization, admission to the ICU, intubation or mechanical ventilation, or death.

These are:

- *Current cancer*
- *Chronic kidney disease*
- *COPD, also called emphysema*
- *Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies*
- *Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system)*
- *Severe obesity*
- *Pregnancy*
- *Type 2 diabetes mellitus*
- *Down Syndrome*
- *Sickle cell disease*

Dr. Levine also emphasized the state's commitment to addressing the historical and current factors that contribute to health disparities.

"There is no question that members of certain demographic groups have been disproportionately overrepresented in Vermont's COVID-19 infection, hospitalization, and death rates," he said. "This means we must prioritize these groups to reach our goal of preserving life and protecting those most at risk."

"We have been working with community leaders, we have listened, and we are committed to continuing to right past wrongs. We will ensure that this community gets the support they need, in the language

they need, in the locations they need, to make informed choices and to get scheduled for vaccinations,” Dr. Levine said.

A Patient’s View from the ICU

Rutland Regional Medical Center has put together a number of videos for release encouraging COVID safety. This one is their latest and perhaps most impactful:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2dRDhUzlxCs>