

Town of Middlebury  
Emergency Management Bulletin  
March 31, 2021

**Vaccine Eligibility Update From VDH:**

**Vaccine Eligibility Adjusted for Caregivers of Children with High-Risk Conditions**

Parents or primary caregivers who are caring for children with certain high-risk conditions will be eligible for vaccination starting today (Wed., March 31). This is to ensure these parents and caregivers remain healthy enough to care for their child, and that they not risk bringing the virus into the home.

These children would be on the VDH high-risk disease list due to their immunocompromised medically complex condition, and prioritized, if they were only old enough to qualify for a vaccine. Parents and primary caregivers of children with certain high-risk health conditions can make a vaccination appointment starting tomorrow by visiting [healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine](https://healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine), or by calling 855-722-7878.

**Vaccine Eligibility Adjusted for BIPOC**

Beginning Thursday (April 1), ALL members of the Vermont BIPOC community 16 years of age and older – as well as their family members – will now be eligible for vaccination.

They can make an appointment online at [healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine](https://healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine) or through the call center. Registrants would state they identify as BIPOC. These Vermonters can also register through one of the community clinics developed with our partners around the state.

There is an almost two-fold increase in risk for hospitalization among the BIPOC population. The pace of vaccination for BIPOC continues to lag significantly behind, with a rate of 20.2% of the population having received at least one dose of vaccine, as compared with a rate of 33.4% among non-Hispanic whites.

**Porter Hospital Outreach Seeking Input**

This letter from Amy Bodette Barr, Director of Development at Porter Hospital:

About one year ago, our world was about to change in so many ways. Addison County reported its first positive cases of COVID-19, which challenged Porter Medical Center like never before. Just a couple months prior, we had hired a new interim president who has since accepted the role permanently and is leading the effort to make Porter a better version of itself.

Much has happened at Porter lately. Our President and COO, Tom Thompson, and our Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Anna Benvenuto, would like to keep you informed, but we need your help. **We are interested in hearing about which topics you'd like our leaders to discuss in an upcoming video message that will be shared with the greater Addison County community.** Your answers to this one-question survey will inform the content of our leaders' message. [Porter is Listening! Tell Us What You'd Like to Know. \(jotform.com\)](https://www.jotform.com)

