



Bucks County Immunization Coalition Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 11th, 2020

9:00 – 10:30 AM

Almshouse Building located at Neshaminy Manor Center, 4th Floor
1282 Almshouse Rd, Doylestown, PA 18901
(Behind the Bucks County Health Department)

Co-Chairs: Andrea Kauffman, Bucks County Health Department
Sierra Pellechio, Hepatitis B Foundation

Secretary: Eileen McLaughlin
Treasurer: Andrea Kauffman, Bucks County Health Department

In attendance: Regina Abrams (We Care Pediatrics), Keith Adams (GSK), Abdul Bilal (Pfizer), Sierra Bodor (BCIC/Hep B Foundation), Maria Calderaro (GSK), Dana Daniels (Bucks County Community College), Sally Fabian-Oresic (Ann Silverman Clinic), Carol Ferguson (PA Polio Network), Maria Frankenfield (CHOP), Jennie Harpster-Basiago (Pennsylvania DOH), Jennifer Hendri (Central Bucks School District), Jeremy Hoffman (Merck), Sarah Hooven (Pfizer), Andrea Kauffman (Bucks DOH), Charlene Lindsay (Bucks County Community College), Amanda Mayer (Bucks County Area Agency on Aging), Janet Ostoyich (Bucks County Community College), Lynne Timby (Sanofi), Amy Wishner (PA Immunization Coalition/AAP)

Welcome, introductions (Sierra)

- *Welcome new attendees!*

BCIC updates, leadership, website, social media (Sierra)

- *BCIC is looking for a sub-contractor (6 hrs/week to run BCIC) – job description coming soon, please think on good nominations!*
- *BCIC updates will be listed on PAIC website going forward*
- *Social media is dismantled for now*

Presentation: “Immunizations for Women Who are Pregnant or Breastfeeding”, Amy Wishner, PA Immunization Coalition, American Academy of Pediatrics (see slides)

- *Pregnant women should do all they can to keep their immune system/defenses strong especially in wake of COVID-19 outbreak*
- *Group discussion around bringing OB providers into BCIC – they are key in promoting vaccines to pregnant/breastfeeding women*

Fall conference updates (Sierra)

- *BCIC is now focusing on running 1 (rather than 2) provider conferences per year – next conference October 7th, 2020, evening program*
- *Topics: Outbreak panel (representative from Philly area colleges to speak on measles outbreak response, public health/preparedness response, physician), Meningitis B Project speakers already secured*
 - *Group agreed we should focus on making it interactive, 45 minute panel discussion + 45 minute presentation (30 mins + 15 Q&A)*
 - *Lynne will connect us with speaker from Temple for outbreak panel*

- Amy/Jeremy know a speaker who could speak about case example of hospital response to outbreak
- Maria will connect us with CHOP adoption clinic for potential speaker
- May also consider doing a small COVID-19 update from Bucks DOH at beginning (hopefully we're on the other side of this by then!)

National infant immunization week ideas (Group)

- Lehigh Valley Immunization Coalition is doing 'new mom' giveaway bags at hospitals; BCIC will look into doing this with information/giveaway items from coalition partners/BCIC funds
- Opportunities to utilize CBSD, Pennsbury HS public health group to do awareness events utilizing school nurses/students
- May also consider activities around teen health week – Philadelphia College of Physicians is doing an event

Community outreach ideas (Group)

- Amy suggested the idea of integrating vaccine-related assignments into school curriculum – Vaccine Education Center has some great resources
- Opportunities to distribute vaccine information through school nurse office/guidance counselors
- Group will look into increasing membership from area colleges (Delval/Villanova)
- Also consider work with elderly

COVID-19 response (Health Department)

- There have been 2 confirmed cases in Bucks (as of Tuesday, 3/10/20)
- Health department is all hands-on-deck with response and tracking contacts of infected
- **Health department recommends: If someone returns from a high-risk country or major conference and become symptomatic (shortness of breath, coughing, fever etc.), notify the health department, and the person should stay home. They evaluate risk on case-by-case basis and can get the person tested if the situation warrants. No extra precautions for domestic travel.**
- **General daytime line to report suspected case: 215-345-3318 (will reach a person)**

Additional items/partner updates (Group)

- Merck – Merck's pediatric hepatitis B vaccine is now available for private purchase
- Sanofi – Sanofi has launched a new unbranded website with credible vaccine information for healthcare providers– www.vaccines.com
- Bucks Area Agency on Aging – Drug take-back day is April 25th, looking for best way to dispose needles, open to suggestions

**Next Meeting:
Wednesday, May 20th 2020**

**Fall Conference:
Wednesday, October 7th, 5:00 – 8:30 PM
Bucks County Intermediate Unit
705 N Shady Retreat Road, Doylestown PA 18901**