

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

February 25, 2021 | 10:00 a.m.

In Attendance, Welcome, Approval of Minutes

Present: Abby Drummond, Angel Reeves, CeCe Lynn, Crystal Morrison, Heidi McGowan, KC Bolton, Kendra Bickham, Maureen Short, Shawn Lybarger

Staff Present: Gillian Wesenberg, Cynthia Hurkes, Danielle Walker, Susan Stiles-Sumstine, Athena Wikstrom, Heather Freiling, Vanessa Pingleton

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

COVID-19 Updates and Vaccine Roll Out

KC Bolton from Aviva Health and Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer shared a COVID-19 update with the group.

COVID cases are going down across the world, though there is some concern that there will be an uptick if people do not stick with social distancing and masking. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine was approved through the emergency approval process by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The Johnson and Johnson vaccine is a single dose vaccine which will make it easier to administer. Many individuals in Douglas County who received their first Pfizer or Moderna vaccine have not received their second vaccine and are encouraged to contact their health care provider or a pharmacy to get the second dose.

Dr. Bob shared that Douglas County has always been well below the national average for COVID-19 cases, however, the county is now at the national average case rate and recently had the highest weekly rate to-date. At the time of the meeting, there were 38 schools in Douglas County with COVID-19 outbreaks. The governor moved Douglas County to the extreme risk category this week. Schools don't need to close at this time, but Douglas County is getting close to the amount of cases that would require schools to close. Most of the schools currently open within the state are in Douglas County. Most all of the educators who want to be vaccinated have received their vaccines at this time. The estimated vaccine count is about 1600 in Douglas County, though since it can be received in multiple areas, that estimate could be lower than the true number of vaccines that have been administered so far. Dr. Bob is estimating about fifty percent of K-12 staff and forty percent of early learning providers have received vaccines. Hospital staff are about forty to sixty percent vaccinated, nursing home staff is estimated at thirty to sixty percent vaccinated. The current vaccine rates are not nearly enough to get to herd immunity. We would have to vaccinate around seventy percent of all individuals in the county to reach herd immunity.

Gillian asked if the Johnson and Johnson vaccine is as effective as the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines.

Dr. Bob advised that the Johnson and Johnson vaccine was not tested in the United States. It was tested in other countries where there were many other variants affecting COVID-19 patients than the other two available vaccines. During trials, the Johnson and Johnson vaccine prevented death and hospitalization by one hundred percent. In Dr. Bob's opinion, individuals should get whichever vaccine that is available since there is still a shortage of vaccines. Jails, seasonal workers, and other individuals who are mobile would be perfect for the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

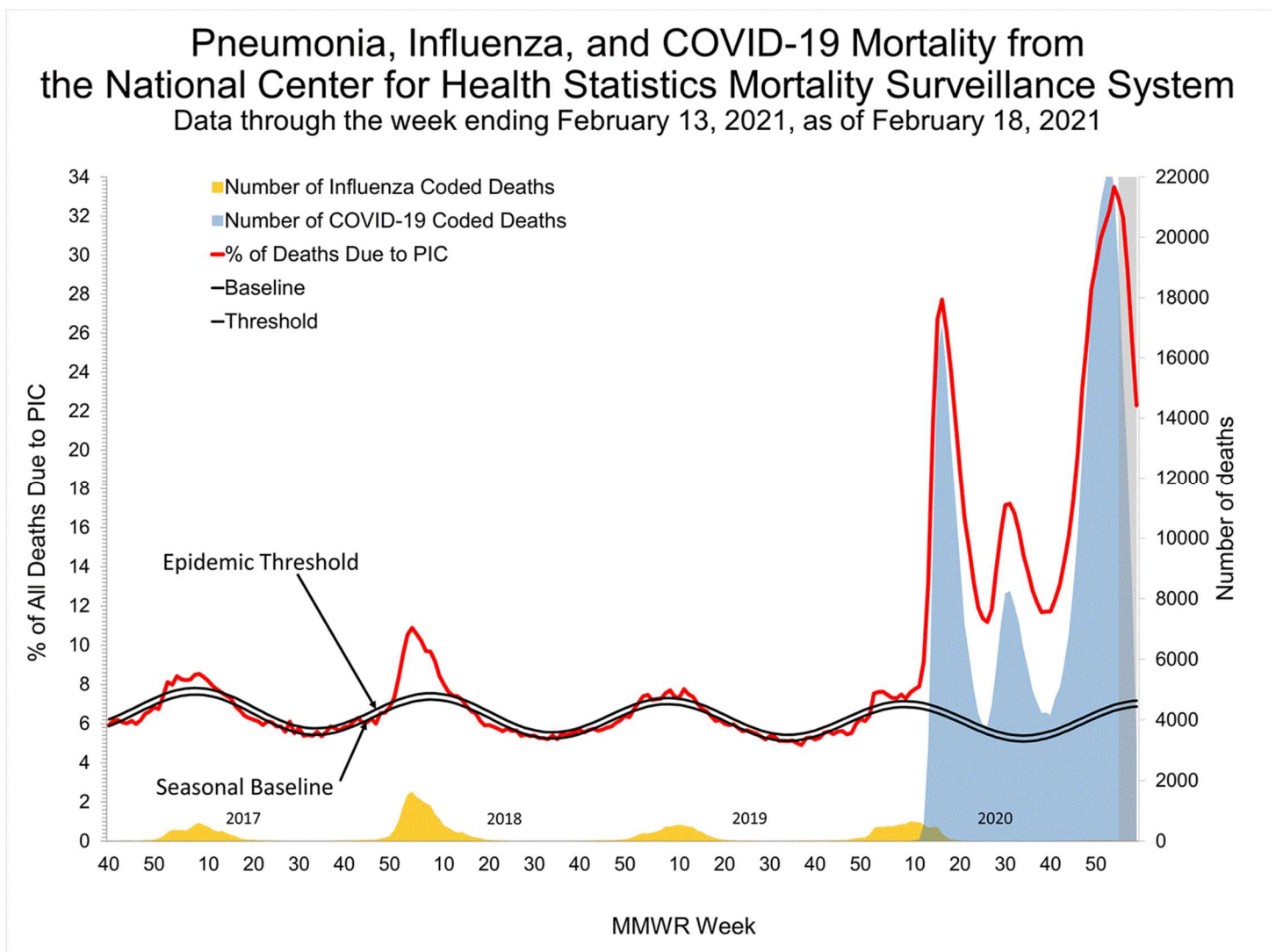
The best way to encourage others to get vaccinated is to be good role models and get vaccinated. Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has messaging and Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on why to get vaccinated for COVID-19. KC Bolton observed that there is a lot of misinformation about the COVID-19 vaccine on social media. Combating the misinformation and educating individuals is the best way to assist people in getting vaccinated.

Dr. Bob shared that flu and RSV rates are low this year in Douglas County. One contributor to the low flu rates this year is that many people got their flu shots and they are protected. Masks are great in combating the flu and RSV, which has assisted in decreasing the infection rate of both viruses. Additionally, social distancing has reduced the infection rate of the flu, as it is three times less contagious than COVID-19. In a nursing home, if one person gets sick with the flu, typically only three others would get the flu. When one person gets COVID-19, every susceptible patient in the nursing home has gotten COVID-19.

If anyone would like to volunteer with vaccine needs such as scheduling and clinics, email Lauren Haddock at lhaddock@aviva.health.

Dr. Bob shared the graphic below that visually represents the number of pneumonia, influenza, and COVID-19 cases compared to their death rates. The yellow hills indicate individuals who have died due to the flu, the black lines are the expected amount to die due to flu and pneumonia. The red line is deaths attributed to respiratory infections. Deaths attributed to COVID-19 are many times higher than the number of flu attributed deaths in all four years combined.

Underlying conditions are medical factors that cause illness and are very common by age 60. By age 60, eight-five percent of people have an underlying condition. Age is the highest factor for death in COVID-19. Every ten years of age, after about 25, the chance of death caused by COVID-19 goes up three-fold, resulting in an 8000 times higher chance of dying at 80 than 15 by COVID-19. Race and ethnicity create a two-fold increase for black, Hispanic and Native American individuals to die of COVID-19 compared to Caucasian individuals. Many individuals who have passed due to COVID-19 were completely healthy aside from being older. Underlying conditions are not as big of factors as it is being made them out to be.



Teach My Kits

Teach My kits are being provided by the Kindergarten Readiness and Innovation Partnership Program (KPI), a program of the Hub. These kits are for three-and-four-year-olds across the region. Details on the kits can be found at <http://teachmy.com/> Kits are being stored at the Douglas County Fair Grounds until the end of March. Cynthia shared that in Douglas County, 888 Teach My kits have been distributed to partners, with 386 kits remaining for distribution.

Some of the partners who have distributed Teach My kits are the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, United Community Action Network (UCAN), Head Start, Salvation Army, Family Development Center Relief Nursery, Compass Behavioral Health, Yoncalla Early Works, North Douglas Relief Nursery, Early Works at South Umpqua School District targeting families who are part of the McKinney Vento program, the faith community, and more. Cynthia would like to distribute to rural medical clinics for distribution to their families and asked the group for recommendations for other partners that we could distribute through.

KC Bolton advised that Aviva would be happy to get the appropriate share for all of their rural sites and that they work with Children's Institute in North County. If families are already being reached through Yoncalla Early Works, he wants to be mindful to not take un-needed kits.

Cynthia asked for ideas for a new distribution plan for the remaining kits. There are a lot of children in rural areas that have not been reached yet.

Suggestions included:

- The YMCA
- Roseburg City Library preschool programing
- Child care providers
- Rural libraries

Cynthia shared that she wanted to check in on the group's order of priority before moving to further phases. The group agreed that Aviva rural clinics and child care providers are reasonable next phases.

Upcoming Hub Requirements

The Early Learning Division (ELD) is finalizing a Theory of Change and Scope of Work for Early Learning Hubs. These documents will frame our work for the next biennium, and will be approved by the legislature. There will likely be a requirement to have a Parent Council that is a committee of the Regional Governance Council and a part of the Regional Stewardship Committee.

Legislative Updates

Gillian reviewed some of the legislative bills that are under review which connect to the Hub's work. These bills were discussed are:

- KPI has not always been granted through the Early Learning Hubs, House Bill (HB) 2054 will update the current rule so that KPI will be a funding stream for all Hubs and the work will be integrated into the Hub work.
- HB 2055 proposes the creation of a Tribal Early Learning Hub.
- HB 2166 calls for a review of public education for equity and the use of suspension and expulsion.
- Senate Bill 236 declares a state of emergency to eliminate expulsion and suspension in early learning.
- HB 2484 calls for child care to be allowed in rental homes.
- HB 3073 would change the ELD from a division to its own authority creating a new agency. This bill also requests that Employment Related Daycare (ERDC) be moved under the new authority from Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS).

The group discussed that suspension is not an appropriate disciplinary action in early learning and is not allowed in Head Start or Preschool Promise. There may be interventions taken to assist a child in being successful, such as Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE), but they cannot be removed from the program.

The Head Start association has been discussing with legislators for over a year about the lack of child care facilities.

Hub and Partner Updates

Lee Ann – Perinatal Task Force – Perinatal Task Force meetings are held regionally. The meetings include a training at the beginning of the meeting. To sign up for the next meeting, which will be held next week, go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/30121-regional-perinatal-task-force-meeting-tickets-135767384903>. The Health Care Coalition of Southern Oregon (HCCSO) website has updated the Welcome Baby, baby shower to a resource center located at: <https://hccso.org/resources/>

Cesia – Evergreen Family Medicine – On February 23, Evergreen Women's Health started a six-week virtual prenatal class that is free for the community. Even though the class started on February 23, they are still taking registrations. For more information families can reach out to Cecilia at 541-464-6464 Ex: 2338 or by email at clynn@efmpc.com.

Maureen – UCAN - Some nurses are doing in-home visits for families who need in-home care, particularly for newborns. Nurses will begin in-home services after receiving vaccines while continuing to follow safety protocols.

Susan – Take Root Parenting Connection – There are two more workshops coming up to complete the winter term offerings. March 1 is the Teens and Feelings workshop, and on March 11 the Raising Kids Who Love Reading will be presented. Take Root is currently working on the spring term schedule. March 3 is the annual Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative (OPEC) site visit.

Vanessa - Community UPLIFT – There have been 421 referrals in Douglas County to date and 30 since January 1. There have been 11 referrals in February so far. Almost every referral received in 2021 was a new expectant mom. Hope Clinic is providing a lot of referrals. Community UPLIFT is beginning talks with Lake District Prevention and Take Root to bring another Dr. Amy training on ACES and resilience. There would be two different tracks. The tracks include one for professional and one track for parents.

Vanessa is currently collecting family surveys on the Community UPLIFT process and materials. The goal was 50 surveys for each topic and Vanessa has received 30 of each survey back so far. She is hoping to have results for next month's Hub meeting. Everyone who has responded to the surveys has found Community UPLIFT beneficial. We are expanding the data portal to include Case Plans from Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) and possibly others and to potentially expand user access. With the new format we are hoping to build, if you sent in a referral, you would be able to access the referral in the portal and see who the family was connected to and if they were actively engaged. The hope is to have the expansion completed by June.

Heather – Care Connections and Education / Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) – The Douglas County Child Care Coalition is providing supplies for child care providers on March 4 through a drive-through pick up. The CCRR is getting ready for Spring Fling, on May 15, Heidi McGowan will be the key note speaker discussing Brené Brown. There is currently a small business class taking place for child care providers. As part of the small business program, there is an infant / toddler learning cohort that includes infant/toddler training and a SPARK portfolio.

Judi – Healthy Family – Healthy Families is hiring a Family Support Specialist. Anyone interested in this position can apply at:

https://www.ucancap.org/application/files/2716/0736/1081/Healthy_Families_Do_Co_Family_Support_Specialist_12-7-20.pdf

Future Topics

COVID-19 Updates with Dr. Dannenhoffer

Next Meeting Date

Next meeting March 18, 2021 from 10:00am – 12:00pm.

One week early due to Spring Break