



## Massachusetts Adult Immunization Coalition Meeting

MA Adult Immunization Coalition  
Virtual Meeting, June 15, 2021 - 6:30 - 8:30pm

### MAIC Meeting Minutes

#### Virtual Meeting, 42 Attendees

#	First Name	Last Name	Organization
1	Saleh	Abbas	JSI
2	Susanna	Bachle	Sanofi Pasteur
3	Eric	Bevans	Merck
4	Carmen	Brown	JSI-MDPH
5	Alexandra	Burke	JSI
6	Brooke	Cardoso	Seqirus
7	Lynne	Chase	Healthcentric Advisors
8	Ted	Clark	MDPH
9	Joyce	Cohen	MDPH
10	Laurie	Courtney	MA DPH
11	George	Coutros	sanofi
12	John	Crowley	GlaxoSmithKline
13	Kim	Daly	Merck
14	Anthony	Desmond	Shaw's Osco Pharmacy
15	Melissa	Enos	Executive Office of Elder Affairs
16	James	Fuccione	Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative
17	Jeanmerli	Gonzalez	Lowell Community Health Center
18	Donna	Hampton	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth



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19	Seth	Heacock	Moderna
20	Olga	Hennion	Moderna
21	Angela	Kramer	Ludlow Board Health
22	Susan	Lett	MA DPH
23	Larry	Madoff	Dph
24	Angel	Maldonado Tejada	JSI
25	Mary	McKenzie	ANA Mass
26	Cynthia	McReynolds	MCAAP Immunization Initiative
27	Lauren	Meyers	Syneos Health
28	Nassira	Nicola	Massachusetts Department of Public Health
29	Kristen	Oliveira	Pfizer
30	Joelle	Santucci	Seqirus Flu Vaccines
31	Sherry	Schilb	Sanofi Pasteur
32	Amy	Sgueglia	JSI
33	Abigail	Sporer	Seqirus
34	Joseph (Joe)	Stone	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
35	Pejman	Talebian	MDPH - Immunization Division
36	Tim	Temple	Pfizer Vaccines
37	Elizabeth	Thoburn	Pfizer
38	Gloria	Thorington	Healthcentric Advisors
39	Joanne	Walsh	Seqirus
40	Theodora	Wohler	Mass. Dept of Public Health
41	Michele	Wojtowicz	UMass Amherst



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42	Pam	Worthington	MDPH
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### Welcome - Amy Sgueglia, MAIC

[MAIC website](#), [MAIC events page](#), [MAIC Resources page](#)

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### COVID Vaccine information - Susan Lett, MDPH

- Brief Flu update
  - Update on Covid Vaccine Recommendations
    - Check the websites for latest guidance and information
  - Covid-19 Gateway page extremely helpful, has helpful information for health providers and workers
  - Recommends to bookmark these sites, have provider information, recipient information, vaccine effectiveness, different toolkits that will help
  - CDC healthcare provide training and education landing page: has role based ways to be trained depending on role
  - Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of Covid-19 Vaccines currently authorized in the United States
- **Vaccine Updates**
  - Can begin to give Pfizer vaccines at 12 years of age
  - Vaccines not interchangeable
    - Safety and efficacy of mixed series not evaluated
  - Covid-19 vaccines and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing
- **ACIP reaffirmed recs for use of the Janssen vaccine, with warning that it may result in blood clots, primarily for women aged 18-49**
  - Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Syndrome (TTS): people with a history of an episode of an immune-mediated syndrome should be offered another Covid-19 vaccine
  - Considerations for use of the Janssen Covid-19 vaccine: people with risk factors for VTE or prior history of thromboses not associated with thrombocytopenia are unlikely to be at increased risk for TTS
- People who take aspirin or anticoagulants can keep taking if part of routine, avoid before vaccine if not part of regular routine
- **In summary**
  - TTS is rare, clinically serious and life threatening, potential causal associated with J&J vaccine
  - Symptoms onset occurs several days after vaccination, most cases are women aged 18-49
  - TTS does not appear associated with mRNA covid vaccines
- **Myocarditis and pericarditis after mRNA vaccine**



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- Consider when evaluating chest pain, dyspnea, or palpitations
- Most patients (around 81%) had full recovery of symptoms
- Early VSD suggest more cases after dose 2 vs dose 1
- CDC educational materials included
- Recognize, respond, and report anaphylaxis and other adverse events following covid-19 vaccination to VAERS
  - Report adverse events to VAERS
  - Participate in v-safe, encourage patients to participate
    - Vsafe: smartphone tool uses text messaging and web surveys to provide personalized health check-ins
  - Communicate with patients on vaccine safety
  - CISA Project Covid-Vax

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### COVID Vaccine Update - Pejman Talebian, MDPH

- Fully vaccinated 4 million individuals in MA
  - 72% of vaccine eligible population
- Focusing on vaccine equity initiative

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### Summary of MDPH COVID-19 Ambassador Program

#### Nassira Nicola, MDPH

- Started in response to problem of:
    - vaccine misinformation,
    - mistrust of public health, government, and medical community
    - Frustration about the process
    - Few direct lines of communication
    - People who do have contact didn't feel confident answering questions
  - Initially built community forum guide for community organizations that wanted to host forums on covid-19 vaccine
  - **Real hands on solution: Vaccine Ambassador Program.**
    - DPH staff who can speak at community-led events
    - Wide range of background, many offices, geographical ties, diversity
    - Help provide clear information about vaccine, build trust, dispel misinformation, encourage uptake, share info back with DPH
    - **The results**
      - 50 completed community forums
      - Approximately 3000 people reached
    - How to request an ambassador: form on [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov)
      - Give as much information as possible
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### Vaccine Confidence Project and MAIC

#### Cynthia McReynolds, MCAAP

- The Vaccine Confidence Project
  - Statewide initiative of the MDPH and MCAAP, started in 2018
  - Goal: to increase vaccine confidence throughout Massachusetts
- Used school immunization data to identify which areas might be more susceptible to vaccine-preventable diseases
- Project initially focused on Western Massachusetts
- Communicate with Confidence resource developed with tools to communicate with vaccine hesitant parents
- 2021: MAIC joins the project, address vaccine hesitant adults
  - Seek to identify additional partners for collaboration
  - Develop community outreach model that can be used to increase pediatric and adult confidence in vaccines

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### MAIC's collaboration with MA Health Aging Collaborative

#### James Fuccione, MHAC

#### Amy Sgueglia, MAIC

- Funded by the tufts health plan foundation
- Developed one-pager about the covid-19 vaccine
  - Translated into Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Mandarin, Russian, Arabic, and Vietnamese
- Able to connect local aging service access points to be on site
- Distributed to many organizations, on social media
- Goal is to raise awareness about other immunizations as well

Question (Nassira): Would it be useful to send it along with in-home vaccinators, on the assumption that the people they're seeing are more likely to need the other resources?

Answer (Amy): absolutely

*Suggestions for other languages: Hindu, Khmer*

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### Conference Update

#### Amy Sgueglia

- 26th annual conference recap: 4/13/2020
  - 247 total attendees
  - 6 breakout sessions
  - Panel discussion about vaccinating college students
  - 155 participants responded to evaluation



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- Most attendees in private practice
- High satisfaction rate (all but 4 rated it as good or excellent)

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### Discussion: Routine Vaccination - Catching Up Adults

Amy Sgueglia

- [https://padlet.com/amy\\_sgueglia/ktdljez53ksq5f92](https://padlet.com/amy_sgueglia/ktdljez53ksq5f92)
- Strategy to catch up adults on their vaccines
  - Community visits a strategy to catch up adults on their vaccines
  - Reminder Recalls
  - Registry running concurrently as they're doing data verification in order to give firm suggestions on what vaccines they need
  - Discussing at every opportunity
- Is there a need for education for providers around getting patients up to date on routine vaccination?
- Suggestion for specialists to refer patients to PCP for vaccination
- Susan: challenging for specialists to do so, pharmacies are helpful, that's a place where they can go and doesn't require a referral.
- Theodora: a specialized time for a drive-up clinic. Even if adult goes to PCP for non-vaccine related reasons, important for PCP to review immunization history
- Nassira: difficult to get earned media interviews, unsure of any purchased media strategies for radio and routine vaccines. Not out of question, though
- Susan: suggestion for tv ads, people talking about their experience with the covid-19 vaccine

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### Immunization Updates from the field - MAIC members

- Abigail Sporer- Sequiris: recently completed phase 2 RCT testing influenza vaccine among children aged 2-18 against pcr confirmed flu, efficacy was consistent throughout.
- Tim Temple - Pfizer: getting word out on adult immunization: WGBH has just hired the first ever chief equity officer, an interesting connection between Dr. Lett and Chief equity officer
- Mary McKenzie: raised concern about specialist referring back to PCP since an appointment still needs to be made

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### Other news/Future topics/Next meeting - Amy Sgueglia, MAIC Coalition Facilitator

- Next MAIC meeting (virtual) scheduled for Tuesday, September 28th, 2021 - 630-830p
  - Register [here](#)