



CHEMUNG COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES



November 16, 2022

Call to order

A meeting of the Chemung County Health Department Professional Advisory Committee was held via WebEx on November 16th at 12pm.

Attendees

Attendees included: Dr. Lenhardt, Christina Standt, Nicole Barton , Jon Keough, Sarah Mattison, Mary Krebs (Mary Ann Baker), Kim Schrolucke-Smith, Susan Larson, Catherine Demember (Kim Rosenkrans), Courtney Aronstam, Rena Terwilliger

Guest

Dr. Nistico and Megan Peters

Absent

None

Approval of Minutes

The September 2022 meeting minutes were distributed for review and were accepted as written.

Reports:

CHHA REPORT November 2022

ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION 2023 (Medicaid)

In January 2023 they will be verifying visits through Netsmart Mobile Caregiver + EVV, they are in the process of setting up portal with EMEDNY NYS Aggregator, once this is completed, they will work with Netsmart to implement software and provide education to clinicians.

OASIS E

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized the plan to implement OASIS-E in the 2022 Home Health Proposed Final Rule. OASIS-E goes into effect in January 2023 and will take the place of OASIS D. The OASIS instrument was revised to increase standardization across post-acute care settings to uniformly collect social determinants of health data and have a standardized quality measure that can be used across different settings. Additionally, the OASIS will play a key role with patient outcomes in the upcoming value-based purchasing environment. OASIS information will serve as a primary data source in calculating up to a 5% bonus or 5% reduction in reimbursements.

VALUE BASED PURCHASING

Value Based Purchasing goes into effect in January 2023. Starting in 2023 (this is called Performance Year One), the information that HHAs provide through various measures and statistics will impact payment in 2025 (called CY 2025 Payment Year One). CMS will pay an increase of up to 5% or a decrease of up to 5% to agencies compared against agencies of like size across the country. These payments will track 2 years later. So, 2023 data will have payment adjusted in 2025, data from 2024 will have payment adjusted in 2026, etc.

NYS DOH SURVEY

A re-visit will be made any time now to ensure that the plan of corrections has been implemented. Case Conferences and visit notes are being reviewed and education provided to clinicians.

QUALITY ASSURANCE PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT (QAPI)/ INFECTION CONTROL

Home Health Quality Measures

Improvement in ambulation showed an improvement since January 87.5% to September 94.2% Clinicians continue to be instructed on the importance of utilizing PT services when indicated. No patterns identified. Will continue to monitor admissions and resumptions to ensure that therapy evals are ordered as appropriate.

Acute care hospitalizations increase from 12.2% in January to 19.5% above the state and national averages of 18.0% and 15.4% respectively.

Clinicians were reminded to have patients call the Health Department before seeking medical attention in the ER. Clinicians reminded to identify patients who may need an increase in nursing visits, and to utilize PRN visits for at risk patients.

Infection Control

50% of the infections in October were UTIs, none had a urinary device. UTI teaching continues to be done regularly with patients.

Performance Improvement Plan

Falls: In October we have identified several falls that patients were not utilizing DME, and environmental tripping hazards have contributed to many falls. Patients identified were educated on safety and fall precautions and have therapies in place.

Continuity of care: This continues to be challenging due to staffing shortages and staff vacations. Scheduler is working closely with case managers to arrange schedules to meet patients visit needs.

CMS Home Health Compare: Patient Satisfaction

Updated scores were posted on 10/26/22. They have maintained our Star Rating to 5 out of 5 for patient satisfaction.

CMS Home Health Compare: Quality of Patient Care

Updated Scores were posted on 10/26/22. Our quality rating is currently 4.5 out of 5 Stars, which remains unchanged. They continue to have the highest star ratings of the 3 home care agencies that services Chemung County for Quality of Patient Care and Patient Satisfaction.

Staffing: Lisa Buckley has retired, and Christina Standt has been promoted to Director of Patient Services, a posting for the vacant Supervising Public Health Nurse has been posted as of 11/14/22 and applications are being reviewed. We have hired a full time RN and have had a resignation of another RN, leaving the agency with two RN openings for case management.

Referrals:

Referrals are continuing to be sent in large quantities and we are triaging all referrals, patients discharged from acute care facilities take priority over office referrals. Staff is calling patients and if unable to see timely they offer to send referrals to another home care agency.

Reimbursement:

They are working with NYSACHO work group to find a way to stop the proposed rate cut that home health providers face in 2023. NYSACHO is providing explanation and clarification on CMS final rule regarding proposed rate cuts on November 16th.

INCIDENTS/COMPLAINTS

No Incidents/complaints this quarter.

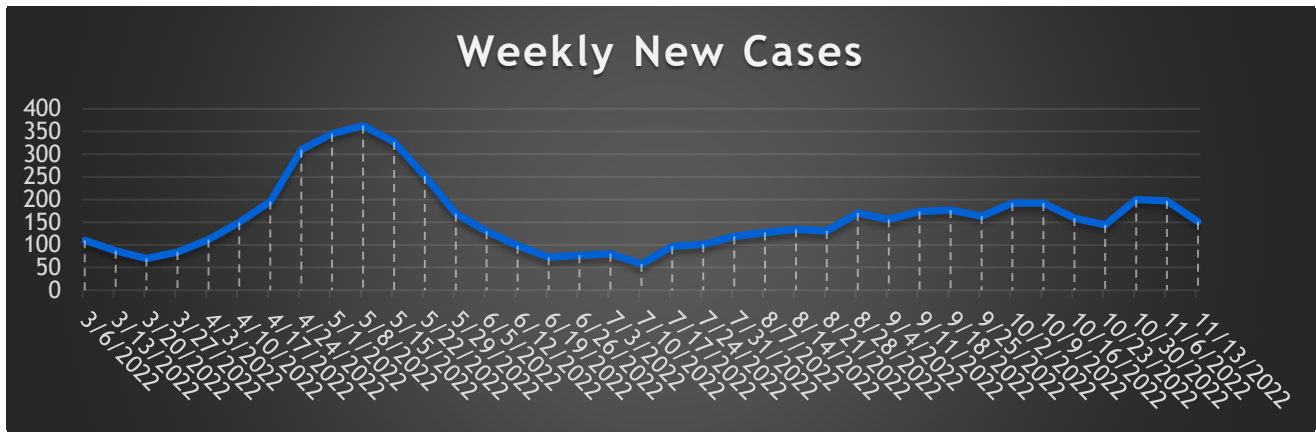
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT REPORT –Sarah Mattison

COVID-19

The number of reported COVID-19 cases continue to be high, but activities surrounding COVID-19 have remained minimal. COVID-19 case investigation related activities continue on a limited basis as staffing allows. The COVID Paperwork Portal remains and integral part of our process for the public to obtain necessary quarantine and isolation documents.

Eight Chemung County Residents passed away with COVID in October. This is the most COVID deaths that we have had in one month since February 2022.

Chemung County maintained a 7 day positivity rate between 9% and 12% in the past week. The average positivity rate for the month of October was 10.1%- higher than September (9.99%) and August (9.50%).



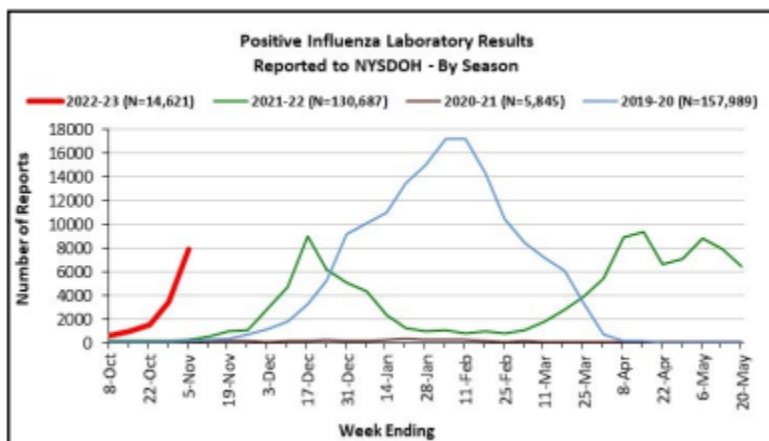
New York State is aligning with CDC recommendations for Isolation and Quarantine in community settings. More information can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html>

Additional data is reported daily on the County Dashboard here: <https://forms.chemungcountyny.gov/covidmapupdates/map.php>

Statewide data is also reported on the New York Dashboard here: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-data-new-york>

INFLUENZA

For 2022-2023 influenza season, we have seen 91 Influenza A, 2 Influenza B, and 6 H1N1. In comparison to 2021 at this same time we only had 4 Influenza total with 3 influenza A and 1 influenza B.



PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS:

STI/HIV CLINIC: Clinic hours remain by appointment only. All patients continue to be screened for covid upon entry into the building. If patients don't have masks they are provided upon entry into the building. Monkeypox screenings are completed when patients call to be scheduled for STI clinic. We have given 2 JYNNEOS vaccinations. STI services are normally scheduled Monday through Thursday from 1-3 pm. Pt's are scheduled at 30-minute increments. Our STI clinic has remained steadily busy since we opened back up in April 2022. We have seen a total of 114 patients.

The public health office continues to see the county's STI rates increase. For 2022, we have seen 385 chlamydia cases, 221 gonorrhea, and 30 total syphilis cases. They continue to work closely with our NYS field representatives to thoroughly investigate and trace contacts/partners and educate our clinic clients in EPT and partner treatment.

The STI clinic is now offering a Cobas PCR NAAT GC/CT rectal and pharyngeal swab test in medium rather than Jembec culture plates. Research has shown the PCR NAAT tests are superior to cultures. This would be in addition to the urine specimens and cervical swab Cobas NAAT GC/CT testing already provided.

A Student Intern from CCC has been assisting in the ongoing development and update of our Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT) campaign. EPT promotes the treatment of chlamydia, gonorrhea and trichomoniasis for the positive patient's partner. The partner can receive medication without an assessment. EPT treatment, as well as STI testing and treatment services, are free of charge. In addition, HIV rapid testing is provided free of charge in the clinic.

REELZ was used to introduce STI/HIV, Communicable Disease, Vaccine Coordination and PH Educator staff to the community. Our Chemung County Health Department Facebook account has been updated to promote our STI/HIV program and explain EPT. Our CCC student intern is preparing to submit a role play segment to further explain and promote EPT.

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION- The lead testing clinic at Chemung County Health Department is on track to be up and running again at the beginning of the New Year in 2023.

OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES:

LATENT AND ACTIVE TB:

We have had fourteen LTBI referrals for 2022. We have a family of three that is almost finished with their medication regimen and one person who just started his treatment two weeks ago. Our active TB case was able to be discharged.

SALMONELLA:

We have had 16 people diagnosed in Chemung County with Salmonella in 2022 with 8 of those being in September. Seven of these cases were linked to have typhimurium serotype. New York State has seen 256 cases as of 11/9/2022 with typhimurium serotype and still investigating the source. 24% of total cases have been hospitalized.

IMMUNIZATIONS: They attended the first Finger Lakes Area Immunization Coalition meeting held in three years. Pivotal Public Health partnership facilitated this meeting. They completed the bylaws and organizational structures. This coalition now comprises all the counties in the central New York region from Chemung to Wayne. They are meeting with the members of the Southern Tier Immunization Coalition Wednesday, November 16th virtually to advise them on the progress made with this new coalition and wrap up business in order to close out this coalition. The plan would be to have all stakeholders in the ST Immunization Coalition joined FLAIC.

The Friday Vaccination clinics have been full to capacity weekly. They have added two more COVID vaccines to our inventory. The new COVID Bivalent Booster for 12 and up was received in mid September. They are seeing positive feedback from the community in accepting this vaccine and it has been a strong addition to our weekly clinic. T added the COVID Bivalent Booster for ages 5-11 more recently. This was dispensed at our EOP off site vaccination POD and will be promoted through our social media outlets.

School vaccination were the primary focus of the past two months. They experienced an unprecedented number of students behind in their vaccinations. The attached infographic shows the numbers for this fall. Beyond the students vaccinated here at public health, they interacted with many other callers who were referred to other providers for their vaccinations. A discussion with Elmira City School NP, Melissa Montopoli suggested that they would start working together in late spring of 2023 to build better communication with the parents of students that may need vaccinations next fall and provide a clinic specific to the student's needs. Please see the infographic attached for additional details.

Due to the Statewide Disaster Emergency declaration for Polio they completed a provider agreement with NYS to dispense polio vaccine under this order. they currently have an adult and child inventory of IPOL vaccine available to the community. They have dispensed polio vaccine to students and adults that



have arrived from out of the country as well as, adults who believe to have missed their childhood vaccinations.


As the flu season is predicted to be significant, NYS has made available their flu vaccine for adults without any financial/insurance stipulations. We have been successful at offering this at our Friday clinics along with the COVID vaccines. Our employee flu clinic was completed the week of October 18th.

Back to School Vaccinations

BY THE NUMBERS

At the Chemung County Health Department
August 15 - October 15, 2022

	
88 Students Vaccinated	11 Students from 11 States
185 Vaccinations Given	13 Students from 7 Countries


Public Health
Protect. Promote. Prevent.
Chemung County Health Dept.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & PODS

CCHD participated in a no-notice FLPHA MOU drill on Tuesday, October 11th, testing the ability of nine local health department's ability to communicate and provide aid in the event of a public health emergency.

A low-notice partner communications drill was conducted via IHANS and email on Wednesday, October 19th. In total, 93 people representing 37 different agencies participated. A brief hot wash was conducted at the most recent PHEP Committee meeting and an AAR will be sent out to partners.

A Chemung County Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, November 2nd where there was a presentation on the upcoming April 8, 2024 total solar eclipse and emergency preparedness considerations for it.

Thursday, November 3rd and Friday, November 4th, 9 CCHD staff attended an ICS-200 refresher training.

A tabletop exercise for the Chemung County Health Center's Ebola protocols was held on Monday, November 7th. Improvements to the protocols are being made and another exercise will take place in the future.

Another vaccination clinic was held at EOP's Ernie Davis Community Center on Thursday, November 10th, 1:00pm – 6:00pm. Vaccinations offered include the Moderna primary series (6 months – 11 years), Pfizer bivalent booster (5+ years), and flu vaccine (19 – 64 years). In total, 42 vaccinations were given.

SOUTHERN TIER TOBACCO AWARENESS COALITION (STTAC)

STTAC continues to provide local organizations and municipalities with tobacco-free policy support and free signage. Eldridge Park is now 100% tobacco free grounds on all properties including e-cigarettes and Marijuana. Effective 7.11.2022. Pine Tree Village Apartments (Painted Post) is also now 100% smoke free. Including e-cigarettes and Marijuana. Effective 8.1.2022 for new tenants and 2.01.2023 for all.

The Reality Check youth leadership program is back up in the Elmira City School District, Watkins Glen Central School District and also in Corning-Painted Post Area School District. Serving youth ages 13-18, this free program meets twice a month at Ernie Davis Academy, Watkins Glen High School and Corning-Painted Post High School. Reality Check and Community Engagement accompanied youth to a one day training at Orenda Springs Rope Course in October. Call STTAC at 607-737-2858 to learn more.

CANCER SERVICES

Southern Tier Cancer Service Program has performed 16 additional screenings for this month.

3 New Breast Cancer Patient were diagnosed in October and I was able to sign them up for the Medicaid Cancer Treatment Plan, which will cover all their medical expenses while under treatment.

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month and 6 local restaurants participated in decorating with "pink" to support Breast Cancer.

QA/QI

Annual PIVITAL Manual review was conducted for the STD Policy manual and Equipment and supplies manual. Dr. Lenhardt has reviewed STD/HIV charts and offered direct feedback for Quality Improvement in documentation. No chart deficits have been found.

PATIENT COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS

There are no patient complaints or incidents to report at this time, the patient satisfaction surveys for the clinic convey no concerns at this time.

WIC Report-Rena Terwilliger

WIC Updates:

- October physical presence waiver was extended until January 2023 with 90-days to reopen so potentially reopening April 2023.
 - We are starting to see some participants in office for appointments, if they chose to come in-person.
 - With so many new staff it's important we ease into in-person appts before we are mandated to reopen.
- Newest Nutritionist, Chelsea Dartt, started the beginning of October. She is an RD and previously work at Wilson General in Binghamton.
 - Will take over the responsibilities of Outreach Coordinator
 - Currently taking the course to become a CLC
- Newest Breastfeeding Peer Counselor started the end of Sept. She is fully training and just starting to make rounds at the Arnot.
- LACASA goals for 2023
 - To increase redemption of WIC whole grains (bread, rice, pasta, tortillas) from 30% to 25%, WIC cereals from 35% to 40%, and low-fat yogurt from 27.5% to 30%.
 - Post recipes to facebook
 - Set up cooking demos with CCE
 - Staff will “shop” at WIC stores to help participants know where to find the selected food items at the stores.
 - Purchase some good handouts relating to those foods
 - To implement a new WBW event for 2023
 - Tentative ideas
 - Eldridge Park
- Formula shortage is still ongoing.

Next Meeting scheduled for February 15, 2022 at 12:00PM via WebEx.