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25<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Deputy Róisín Shortall  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 15832/21 To ask the Minister for Health the clinical evidence in relation to the point at which persons in an age cohort are no more likely to develop severe disease if they catch SARS-CoV-2 than the general population; (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Shortall

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

This response describes data on notified cases of COVID-19 up to midnight March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021. Data were extracted from Health Protection Surveillance Centre's (HPSC) Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting System (CIDR) on March 24<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 7:30 am. CIDR is a dynamic system and case details may be updated at any time. Therefore, the data described here may differ from previously reported data and data reported for the same time period in the future.

Table 1 shows the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19, the number of hospitalised cases, the number of cases admitted to ICU and the number of deaths by age group. The percentage of cases hospitalised and admitted to ICU and the case fatality ratio are also provided. More severe disease outcomes are strongly associated with increasing age.

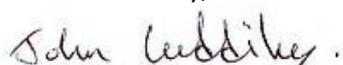
**Table 1. Number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 and number of hospitalised cases, ICU cases and deaths, by age group, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020 to March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021**

Age Group Name	Number of confirmed cases of COVID-19	Number admitted to hospital	% of cases admitted to hospital	Number admitted to ICU	% of cases admitted to ICU	Number of deaths	% of cases who died
0-4 yrs	6866	158	2.30	5	0.07	2	0.03
5-12 yrs	11630	88	0.76	5	0.04	0	0.00
13-18 yrs	14444	158	1.09	6	0.04	2	0.01
19-24 yrs	29991	406	1.35	11	0.04	2	0.01
25-34 yrs	41095	848	2.06	47	0.11	12	0.03
35-44 yrs	37362	1024	2.74	103	0.28	30	0.08
45-54 yrs	34574	1503	4.35	252	0.73	73	0.21
55-64 yrs	25989	1860	7.16	373	1.44	227	0.87
65-74 yrs	12928	2373	18.36	401	3.10	683	5.28
75-84 yrs	9753	3015	30.91	190	1.95	1488	15.26
85+ yrs	7488	1955	26.11	20	0.27	1843	24.61
Unknown	44	4	9.09	0	0.00	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>232,164</b>	<b>13,392</b>	<b>5.77</b>	<b>1,413</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>4,362</b>	<b>1.88</b>

A review of the evidence regarding COVID-19 and who may be at risk of severe COVID-19 can be found here [https://www.hiqa.ie/sites/default/files/2020-12/Categorisation-of-extremely-medically-vulnerable-to-COVID-19\\_Evidence-review.pdf](https://www.hiqa.ie/sites/default/files/2020-12/Categorisation-of-extremely-medically-vulnerable-to-COVID-19_Evidence-review.pdf)

If you require any further information or clarification please do contact us.

Yours sincerely,



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