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22nd July 2021

Deputy Alan Kelly Dáil Éireann, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: PQ 22970/21 To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons under 50 years of age that have had a laboratory confirmed case of Covid-19 since the pandemic began.

Dear Deputy Kelly

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

The reported epidemiology of COVID-19 is normally based on the notifications to the Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system. The cyber-attack on the HSE on 14 May 2021 has prevented the routine notification of cases, associated deaths and outbreaks of COVID-19 to CIDR. As an interim measure, provisional data on cases is prepared based on the information captured by the HSE COVID Care Tracker.

We have provided the requested data for the period up to 8 May using CIDR data, and using cases uploaded to the COVID Care Tracker for the period since 9 May. Please note that data from the COVID Care Tracker do not represent notified cases, and have not undergone the data validation procedures undertaken through CIDR. Data for the period since 14 May are therefore provisional and subject to ongoing review and update. As a result, future data reported for this period may differ from that provided here. As soon as all COVID-19 surveillance systems are restored, surveillance staff in laboratories, the Departments of Public Health and HPSC will work together to retrospectively collate and validate COVID-19 cases, outbreaks and deaths diagnosed and/or notified during this period.

- Up to 8 May 2021, 69.5% (175,687/252,808) of confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified to CIDR were aged less than 50 years
- From 9 May 2021 to 8 July 2021, 88.06% (20,608/23,400) of cases uploaded to the COVID Care Tracker were aged less than 50 years.

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

Yours sincerely,

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Dr John Cuddihy, MRN: 016227 Interim Director of HPSC, 25-27, Middle Gardiner St., Dublin 1.