COVID-19 Data Summary, Wednesday 6th October 2021

Introduction:

As restrictions continue to ease and numbers of cases currently stabilise we will continue to monitor the situation closely to predict future pressures on the hospital system and to assess effectiveness of control measures.



Up to 5th Oct, **7,239,987 COVID** vaccine doses have been administered (3,541,998 first doses, 3,462,135 second doses and 235,854 single doses). In the 7 days up to 5th Oct a total of 29,271 doses were administered (average of 4,182 per day).

Total

Cumulati







Number of people with COVID-19 in critical care



The SPC chart shows that the number of new admissions of COVID positive patients has been **stable** over the past 3 weeks.

24 admissions today, with a total of 172 admissions over the past 7 days (down 4% on the previous week).

The number of people with COVID in hospital fluctuates by day (usually higher at weekends), and appears to be trending upwards slowly.

345 in hospital at 8am today, up 15% on the same day last week.

Of the 345 people with confirmed COVID-19 in hospital, **University Hospital Limerick has the highest number (48 people),** followed by Tallaght (35), Mater (25), Connolly (22), OLOL Drogheda (22) & Cork UH (21). These 6 hospitals account for over half (50.1%) of cases.

The number with COVID-19 in critical care appears to be relatively stable, and although it has increased in recent days it is too soon to determine if this is a trend.

Currently 70 in ICU (up 10 on the same day last week). 7 new admissions today.

Prepared in partnership by Emma Hogan & Gráinne Cosgrove (National Quality and Patient Safety Directorate) and Dr Philip Crowley (Strategy & Research)



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The SPC funnel plot shows that the rates of new cases in all counties are within the expected range of variation when compared to the national average.

While Longford currently has the highest 14-day incidence rate, it is within the expected range of variation relative to the national rate for a county with that population.

The latest 14 day incidence rate is 362.6 per 100,000 population, while the 7 day incidence rate is 167.3. The 7 day rate is less than half (46.1%) of the 14 day rate; this means that there were fewer new cases in the most recent 7 days than in the previous 7 days.

At county level, the 7 day rates for **10 counties are greater** than half of the 14 day rates. This is an improvement on the same day last week when 15 counties had a 7 day rate greater than 50% of their 14 day rate.

Data from the WHO on COVID incidence rates within Europe shows that the 14 day incidence rate is the 8th highest out of the 31 countries (8th highest also last week).

The 14 day incidence rates in 14 of the 31 countries have increased compared to 2 weeks ago. Rates have decreased in 15 countries, including Ireland (down 6%).

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Key trends & recent changes:

- In the 7 days up to 6th October there were 7,967 new cases reported; down 14% on the previous week (9,313 new cases in the 7 days up to 29th September). Compared to last week, the 5 day average is down 17% and compared to two weeks ago, down 16%.
- **29.6% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among children aged 0-18 years.** 40.0% of new cases over the past 2 weeks were among people aged 19-44 years. 20.3% of new cases were among people aged 45-64 years and 10.1% were among people aged 65 and over.
- The 14 day incidence rate is currently 362.6 per 100,000. This varies significantly by age group, and for 0-34 year olds is 415 per 100,000, compared to 331 per 100,000 among 35-64 year olds and 273 per 100,000 among people aged 65 and over. For 85+ the 14 day incidence rate is 286 per 100,000 population.
- The 7 day rate is less than half (46.1%) of the 14 day rate; this means that there were fewer new cases in the most recent 7 days than in the previous 7 days.

Hospital activity:

- The number of patients with confirmed COVID currently **in hospital is up 15% compared to last week** (300 at 8am on 29th September, 345 at 8am on 6th October).
- Over the past 7 days there have been **172** admissions of COVID positive patients to hospital (an average of 24.6 per day), down 4% on the previous week (179 new admissions in the 7 days up to 29th September).
- Data from the NOCA ICU Bed Information System shows that the number of confirmed COVID cases in ICU is up 17% compared to last week (60 on 29th September, 70 on 6th October).
- <u>The last 14 days</u>: Of 17,298 new cases notified between **22nd Sept & 5th Oct, 321 (1.9%) have been hospitalised** to date and **16 (0.1%) have been admitted to ICU**. Of these 321 hospitalised cases:
 - 19 (5.9%) were aged 0-18 years, with 1 ICU admission in this age group
 - \circ 33 (10.3%) were aged 19-34 years, with 1 ICU admission in this age group
 - o 106 (33.0%) were aged 35-64 years, with 7 ICU admissions in this age group
 - 163 (50.8%) were aged 65 and over, with 7 ICU admissions in this age group.

Outbreaks:

- For the most recent week (ending 2nd October), there were **6 new outbreaks in acute hospitals** reported (8 last week), with **29** linked cases.
- There were 7 new outbreaks in nursing homes (12 last week) with 19 linked cases.
- There were 2 new outbreaks in community hospitals / long-term care facilities (1 last week) with 11 linked cases.
- There were 14 new outbreaks in residential institutions (4 last week) with 56 linked cases reported.
- There were **10 new outbreaks reported in schools** (49 last week) with 45 linked cases. Of the 10 new outbreaks, 9 were in primary schools, and 1 was associated with school bus transport.
- There was 1 new outbreak associated with childcare facilities (7 last week) with 4 linked cases.
- There were **17 outbreaks in vulnerable populations** (18 last week); 13 among members of the Irish traveller community with 70 confirmed cases, 2 associated with the homeless with 16 confirmed cases, 1 associated with clients of mental health services with 4 linked cases, and 1 outbreak among members of the Roma community with 2 confirmed cases .
- There were 22 new outbreaks in workplaces (21 last week) with 91 linked cases.
- Note data on outbreaks are provisional and subject to ongoing review, validations and updating.

Conclusion:

The number of cases now appears to be decreasing slowly despite significant relaxation of population level control measures, however the incidence among people aged 55-84 may be increasing. The incidence among school aged children has decreased by 27% for 5-12 year olds and by 15% for 13-18 year olds compared to last week.