

**Meeting:** National Crisis Management Team Meeting. **Meeting #44, COVID-19.**

**Date:** Thursday 14th July 2020 @ 09:00am.

**Attendance:**

**Member** - Paul Reid, CEO HSE; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; Martin Dunne, Director National Ambulance Service; Yvonne O’Neill (for David Walsh), Community Operations; Liam Woods, Acute Operations; Tom McGuinness, AND National Emergency Management; Fran Thompson, CIO; Anne Marie Hoey, ND Human Resources; Sean Bresnan, ND Procurement; Dr Paul Connors, ND Communications; Damien Niamh O’Beirne, HSE EMT; Dean Sullivan, CSPO; Dr Kevin Kelleher, AND Public Health; Dr Siobhan Ni Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care.

**In Attendance** - Amanda Prior, HSE National Office for Emergency Management; Cahir O’Byrne, HSE National Office for Emergency Management; David Keating, DoH; Sarah Maxwell, Office of CEO.

**Apologies:**

Joe Ryan, ND National Services; Dr Lorraine Doherty, CL HPSC; Ann O’Connor, COO; Ray Mitchell, Parliamentary Affairs.

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
1.			
<b><u>INTRODUCTION:</u></b>	The CEO Mr Paul Reid, opened the 44 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the NCMT.		
2.			
<b><u>MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:</u></b>	Minutes from NCMT #43 were approved.		
3.			
<b><u>NPHET ACTION LOG:</u></b>	The CEO requested an update on NPHET actions.	The action list will be updated as necessary to include new actions and status of existing ones.	HSE National Emergency Management – Tom McGuinness.
4.			
<b><u>NCMT ACTION LOG:</u></b>	The CEO requested an update on NCMT actions.	The action list will be updated as necessary to include new actions and status of existing ones.	HSE National Emergency Management – Cahir O’Byrne
5.			
<b><u>Workstream Updates:</u></b>	<p><b><u>Public Health Update:</u></b>  An update was provided by Dr Kevin Kelleher, Public Health. In mid-June there were 263 cases per 14 days. By the end of June that had dropped to 117 cases per 14 days. Of those, 45-50% of cases were in Dublin and the majority involved patients over 45 years of age. As of Sunday 12/7/20, there were 165 cases in the previous 14 days. 27% in over 45s with the majority in the younger 20-40 age group. 47% in Dublin – focused on inner city (CHO 7 &amp; CHO 9 – but city locations)  Most recent data shows an increase of cases and the age range of infected persons has dropped significantly.</p>	Update due at next meeting.	Dr Lorraine Doherty / Dr Kevin Kelleher

	<p>There have been 3 significant outbreaks. One outbreak each in Kerry and Sligo. Both cases were linked to same flight coming from Doha, although it is likely they had acquired the infection in the countries where their trip had originated as opposed to on the flight. There was one in Naas with a link to South Dublin involving related businesses. There were between 15-20 positives in each case. Cases are also increasing on a daily basis worldwide.</p> <p>The CEO queried the current policy regarding travel of HCW overseas and quarantine arrangements for same. KK confirmed a 14-day quarantine period is required for any returning HCW. In regard to HSE staff travelling abroad on holidays – they are being advised against doing it, “should not do it” however where they do travel abroad, they need to isolate on return for 14 days at their own expense. DEPR are preparing circular for Public and Civil Service on this matter to advise that self-isolation must be taken as annual leave.</p> <p>The CEO requested this message be reiterated to the Private LTRC Sector</p>	<p>The CEO suggested a strong statement from NPHET regarding policy on HCW travelling abroad for leave would help drive message home.</p>	<p>CCO Dr Colm Henry; Liam Woods ND Acute Operations</p>
--	---	---	--

	<p>also. They need to align themselves with general HSE policy on the matter in the interests of patient safety. Community Ops will write to Mr Tadgh Daly NHI, on the matter.</p> <p>The matter is to be referred to NPHE on Thursday and a strong statement from NPHE on this matter would be of assistance.</p> <p><b><u>Testing &amp; Tracing Update:</u></b> An update was provided by Niamh O’Beirne, HSE EMT. There are two streams progressing at present:</p> <p><b>1. Testing of Passengers at Airports/Ports:</b> NPHE have requested that the options for testing passengers at ports of entry be examined. A meeting is scheduled at 10:30am today to discuss. HSE will seek clarification from NPHE as to the expectation.</p> <p><b>2. Passenger Locator Form:</b> A meeting is scheduled for 12:30 today between DoH, HSE, Taoiseach, DTTAS &amp; DoJ regarding passenger locator forms. This meeting will provide advice on the use of a digitised form on a CRM system. KK noted that the passenger locator system is difficult to implement at a number of ports of entry for</p>	<p>The CEO also requested community operations formally contact Tadgh Daly NHI regarding this issue. DPER guidance to be attached also.</p> <p>The CEO has requested that NOB prepare a short report on options for port of entry testing, to include costings. This paper will be considered by HSE EMT prior to its submission to NPHE for discussion.</p> <p>CIO Fran Thompson will update at next NCMT.</p>	<p>Yvonne O’Neill – Community Operations</p> <p>HSE EMT, Niamh O’Beirne</p> <p>CIO, Fran Thompson</p>
--	--	---	---

	<p>example ferry ports due to the lack of facilities and opportunities for public engagement. CIO and CEO noted that while the HSE can provide advice the delivery of such systems is a matter for Government and Dept. of Justice in particular who are responsible for border control.</p> <p>A further update regarding Serial Testing was given by NOB. In discussions the DoH have indicated that they want to consider ongoing testing of HCWs. The CCO noted that this had not been raised at NPHEt and that this series of tests was always intended to be for a 4-week period only. Once completed the clear intent was to analyse the outcomes in terms of prevalence, impact in particular geographic areas and indications of transmission to patients. Having considered these matters any learnings and future recommendation from NPHEt would then be referred to the HSE for discussion. This type of testing requires a significant amount of HSE personnel and is very costly. Current indications show around 0.2% prevalence in the cohort tested.</p>	<p>Matter to be raised at NPHEt as necessary.</p> <p>Update at next NCMT.</p>	<p>CCO Dr Colm Henry</p> <p>HSE EMT, Niamh O’Beirne</p>
--	--	---	---

	<p><b>Operational Update:</b> An update was provided by Yvonne O'Neill, Community Operations. Data on positive cases emerging from Serial Testing is being shared on a daily basis with COVID response teams. COVID response teams are in turn engaging with nursing homes to support them in maintaining a safe level of service. To date, 27 facilities have been identified with positive detections. Two were declared as outbreaks. (78 positives from 51,000 tests)</p> <p><b>Clinical Coalition Update:</b> An update was provided by Dr Colm Henry, CCO, and Liam Woods, Acute Operations. The age profile of recent cases suggests that they are less likely to require admission to hospital and in particular ICU interventions. However, these young people can transmit the disease to older more vulnerable population. Currently there are 10 confirmed cases in ICU along with 6 suspected cases.</p> <p>If the “R” rate was to rise well beyond 1 it is anticipated that it would be mid-August or the end of August before the impact is seen in hospitals. This would be a similar lead time to that</p>	<p>Update at next NCMT.</p> <p>Update at next NCMT.</p>	
--	---	---	--

	<p>experienced in the initial wave of COVID infections.</p> <p>The CEO requested vigilance in this area in particular as normal winter surge may coincide with a surge in COVID-19.</p> <p><b><u>General Surge Preparedness:</u></b> The CEO requested NCMT members focus on surge areas such as ICU capacity, PPE and nursing home protections etc.</p> <p><b><u>Short Papers:</u></b> The CEO asked that the complete suite of short paper be circulated to NCMT members.</p>		
6.			
<b><u>AOB</u></b>			
7.			
<b><u>NEXT MEETINGS</u></b>	<p>The next meeting of the NCMT will be as follows: <b>NCMT #45 Tuesday 21th July 2020 @ 09:00am.</b></p>	<p>TMcG to circulate papers immediately after the meeting.</p>	<p>EM AND, Tom McGuinness</p> <p>HSE National Emergency Management – Amanda Prior</p>