

Meeting: National Crisis Management Team. Meeting #81 COVID-19.


Date: Tuesday 30th March 2021 @ 09:00am.

Members: Paul Reid, CEO; Ann O'Connor, COO; Anne Marie Hoey, ND HR; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; Damien McCallion, ND COVID Vaccination Lead; Dean Sullivan, CSPO; Fran Thompson, CIO; John Kelly, Corporate Affairs; Dr Kevin Kelleher, AND Public Health; Liam Woods, ND Acute Operations; Mark Brennock, ND Communications; Dr Martin Cormican, National Lead on Infection Control; Martin Dunne, National Ambulance Service; Niamh O'Beirne, HSE EMT; Sean Bresnan, ND Procurement; Dr Siobhán Ní Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care; Tom McGuinness, AND National Emergency Management; Yvonne O'Neill, Community Operations.

In Attendance: Dr Trish Markham, National Office for Emergency Management; Sinéad Fox, Office for Emergency Management.

Apologies: Joe Ryan, ND National Services; Ray Mitchell, Parliamentary Affairs; Stephen Mulvany, CFO; Dr Lorraine Doherty, CL HPSC.

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
1. INTRODUCTION			
	The CEO opened NCMT #81.		
2. PREVIOUS MINUTES			
	Minutes of NCMT #80 approved.		Sinéad Fox
3. NPHE ACTION LOG			
	Review of actions deferred.		Dr Trish Markham
4. NCMT ACTION LOG			
	Review of actions deferred.		Dr Trish Markham
5. PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE			
	<p>KK: Epidemiological update.</p> <p>New cases remain at a plateau and possibly rising, cases at 550-600 cases/day.</p> <p>Meeting with NPHE yesterday - high number of cases in the community remains a concern.</p> <p>7,796 cases over last 14-day period.</p> <p>Median age 32yrs.</p> <p>73.9% of cases <45yrs.</p> <p>National incidence rate of 163.72/100K.</p> <p>Counties with the highest 14-day incidence rate are Offaly at 455.4/100K, Donegal at 282/100K and Dublin at 248.9/100K.</p> <p>Hospitalisations: 351.</p> <p>ICU Admissions: 14.</p>		Dr Lorraine Doherty & Dr Kevin Kelleher

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	<p>Deaths: 17. 539 new cases and 1 death reported in last 24hrs.</p>  <p>12 Workplace Outbreaks. 1 in meat/poultry factory. 6 in commercial.</p> <p>49 in schools. 4 in University/Third Level institutions. 19 in Childcare Facilities.</p> <p>Global Update USA, India and Brazil have the highest cumulative cases. USA, Brazil and Mexico have the highest deaths.</p>		

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6. COMMUNITY OPERATIONS			
	<p>YO’N: Positive trends, outbreak numbers in nursing homes appears to have plateaued at 2-3/week with 2-3 cases associated with each outbreak. 10% of nursing homes remain in outbreak, considerable reduction from peak of 33% earlier this year.</p> <p>Number of outbreaks and positive cases in homeless and direct provision services remains high, vaccination of these vulnerable groups for consideration.</p>		Yvonne O’Neill/Ann O’Connor
7. ACUTE OPERATIONS			
	<p>LW: Inpatient COVID-19 positive admissions are slowly reducing. Small increase in hospital acquired infection - being monitored and IPC policy being reviewed.</p> <p>Some increase in trolley numbers reported in some hospitals.</p> <p>Non-invasive ventilated patients: 155. Private hospital usage being reviewed and monitored, capacity in Dublin and Limerick still being utilised. Use of private hospitals being closely monitored in relation to case numbers and hospital activity. ‘Safety Net’ can be triggered if required.</p>		Liam Woods

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	<p>Vaccinations: focus on vulnerable categories.</p> <p>MC: A small number of hospitals experiencing outbreaks, higher transmissibility of this variant is a challenge. Updating guidance, an educational webinar scheduled and regular engagement with hospitals re IPC guidelines ongoing.</p> <p>AO'C: The resumption of scheduled care and increase in unscheduled care is leading to an increase in activity - same being monitored.</p>		
8. TESTING & TRACING			
	<p>Testing: Walk-in Testing Centres operational at 5 sites since last Thursday (25/3), >2,000 tests yesterday, approx. 10,000 tests since opening. These remain open until tomorrow (31/3). Risk assessments of additional sites for walk-in testing centres undertaken, 3 further sites confirmed. Other sites where there are a high number of cases, are being considered for walk-in centres.</p>		Niamh O'Beirne

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	<p>49% increase in referrals for testing, including acutes, community, schools, private hospital and walk-in centres.</p> <p>Testing in schools continues to rise, 8,000 in last week, up from 2,000 2/52 ago.</p> <p>Tracing: Enhanced tracing going well. Source investigation will launch tomorrow (31/3), this will include additional questions for community transmission cases, this is approx. 20% of all cases.</p> <p>PR thanked all involved in the set-up of the various test and trace initiatives, including the walk-in clinics.</p>		
9. VACCINATIONS			
	<p>DMcC: >800,000 vaccines have been administered. Approx. 120,000 completed last week. Update given on vaccination status, challenges and plans for Vaccination Cohorts 1-7.</p>		Damien McCallion
10. AOB			
	<p>FT: ICT upgraded the web-based CovidCare Tracker (CCT) system and the COVID-19 Vaccination Management System (CoVax system).</p>		Fran Thompson

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
	The public portal will be available to launch from next Tuesday for >65yrs to register for vaccinations.		
NEXT MEETING			
	NCMT #82 Tuesday, 6th April 2021 @ 09:00		