

Meeting: National Crisis Management Team. Meeting #101 COVID-19.

Date: Tuesday 14th September 2021 @ 09:00am.

Members: Paul Reid, CEO; Anne O'Connor, COO; Anne Marie Hoey, ND HR; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; Dean Sullivan, CSPO; Joe Ryan, ND National Services; Mark Brennock, ND Communications; Dr Kevin Kelleher, AND Public Health; Dr Martin Cormican, National Lead on Infection Control; Niamh O'Beirne, HSE EMT; Ray Mitchell, Parliamentary Affairs; Tom McGuinness, AND Emergency Management; Yvonne O'Neill, Community Operations; Stephen Mulvany, CFO; Damien McCallion, ND COVID Vaccination Lead; John Swords, Head of Procurement.

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

Apologies: Sinéad Fox, NiSRP Programme/NCMT Secretary; Dr Siobhán Ní Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care; Dr Máirín Boland, National Clinical Lead, Health Threats Emergency Preparedness Programme.

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
1. INTRODUCTION			
	The CEO opened NCMT #101.		
2. PREVIOUS MINUTES			
	Minutes of NCMT #100 approved.		
3. NPHE ACTION LOG			
	Nil open on log.		Dr Trish Markham
4. NCMT ACTION LOG			
	1 action on log.		Dr Trish Markham
5. PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE			
	<p>KK: Case numbers are averaging between 12-1300 daily. Plateau not declining. Hospital numbers are slowly reducing and ICU admissions are static. Outbreaks are predominantly in schools. Monitoring international situation.</p> <p>30/08/2021-12/09/2021 20,033 cases over last 14-day period. 1,394 new cases reported in last 24hrs. Median age 27yrs. 75.9% of cases <45yrs. National incidence rate of 420.7/100K. Counties with the highest 14-day incidence rate are Monaghan 1001.39/100,000 Donegal 866.9/100,000 Cavan 627.5/100,000 A total of 5,171 deaths have been</p>		Dr Kevin Kelleher

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	<p>reported up to 12/09/21. 308 cases hospitalised. 20 cases admitted to ICU.</p> <p>Outbreaks - Week 36* *Provisional data may change, subject to validation. 134 new outbreaks notified in the last week. 6 in nursing homes and community hospitals/long-stay unit. 7 in residential care facilities. 10 in hospitals. 0 were travel related. 12 in vulnerable populations. 13 workplace outbreaks. 3 in University/College 37 in schools. 13 in childcare facilities.</p> <p>Global Epidemiology USA, India and Brazil continue to have the highest number of cumulative cases and cumulative deaths.</p>		
6. COMMUNITY OPERATIONS			
	<p>YO'N: In the last 7 days, 21 new outbreaks across all residential facilities. Monitoring level of spread with timeframes. Ratio of patient/staff infection rates being observed.</p>		Yvonne O'Neill

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	<p>Some private facilities are being supported with Public Health input and HSE staffing.</p> <p>Communicating with HIQA with regard to Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures.</p> <p>Watchful of case numbers/disease spread/emerging trends.</p>		
7. ACUTE OPERATIONS			
	<p>AO'C: Sites remain very busy, responding to significant service demands and capacity challenges. Two sites of concern, continuous engagement and support being provided.</p> <p>Working closely with model three sites. Continuing to deal with increased numbers of trolleys, delayed transfers of care and home support encounters.</p> <p>MC: Acute hospitals - number of hospital acquired cases = down from 49 to 43.</p> <p>Number of cases of acute hospital staff are down from 169 to 100.</p> <p>Outbreaks continue in some hospitals - better outcomes seen compared to January.</p> <p>Community – nursing home outbreaks with less morbidity reported.</p>		<p>Anne O'Connor Dr Martin Cormican</p>

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8. TESTING & TRACING			
	<p><u>Testing:</u> Past week figures are up by 25-35% on prior week. 17% increase over weekend. 12/09/2021 – over 15,000 referrals. 13/09/2021 – approximately 30,000 referrals. Testing system is challenged – 3 area reached full capacity yesterday. Close contacts = 3.7 compared to 3.3. School volume significant. 13/09/2021 = 255 new Primary schools and 166 new Secondary schools taken into the system. Year to date = over 1,800 Primary school and 962 secondary schools. School system process changed to speed up referral and validation to get individuals into the testing system.</p> <p><u>Tracing:</u> Challenged with the current referral volume/calls required/scheduling of tests. Testing capacity = 20,000. Staff deployment considered - NAS dealing with outbreak testing. Volume and capacity extension under constant review.</p>		Niamh O’Beirne

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9. CLINICAL COALITION UPDATE			
	<p>CH: Changing pattern observed – high volume of testing with associated falling positivity rates.</p> <p>Falling incidence in most age groups. Public Health challenged, with schools in particular.</p> <p>Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) admissions in the UK are 5 times the level of COVID-19.</p> <p>RSV normally experienced later in the year.</p>	Schools issues to be brought to NHPET.	Dr Colm Henry
10. AOB			
	<p>Monitor changing pattern.</p> <p>Mobilise resources to meet need.</p>		Paul Reid
NEXT MEETING			
	<p>NCMT #102 Tuesday, 21st Sept 2021</p> <p>@ 08:30hrs</p>		