

**Meeting:** National Crisis Management Team. Meeting #105 COVID-19.

**Date:** Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021 @ 08:30 hrs.

**Members:** Paul Reid, CEO; Stephen Mulvany, CFO; John Delamere (for Anne Marie Hoey, ND HR); Prof Risteárd Ó Laoide (for Dr Colm Henry, CCO); Mark Brennock, ND Communications; Dr Kevin Kelleher, AND Public Health; Damien McCallion, ND COVID Vaccination & Test & Tracing Lead; Joe Ryan, ND Operational Performance and Integration; John Swords, ND Head of Procurement; Dr Martin Cormican, National Lead on Infection Control; Ray Mitchell, Parliamentary Affairs; Sean Bresnan, SRO Vaccine Supply Chain & Logistics; Yvonne O'Neill, Community Operations; Liam Woods, Acute Operations; Dr Siobhán Ní Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care; John Kelly, Head of Corporate Affairs.

**In Attendance:** Cahir O'Byrne, National Office for Emergency Management.

**Apologies:** Anne O'Connor, COO; Anne Marie Hoey, ND HR; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; Dean Sullivan, CSPO; Dr Máirín Boland, National Clinical Lead, Health Threats Emergency Preparedness Programme; Tom McGuinness, AND Emergency Management; Dr John Cuddihy, Director HPSC; Fran Thompson, CIO; Robert Morton, National Ambulance Service; Tara Rowe, National Office for Emergency Management.

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>			
	The CEO opened NCMT #105.		
<b>2. PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>			
	Minutes of NCMT #104 approved.		Cahir O'Byrne
<b>3. NPHET ACTION LOG</b>			
	Update deferred.		Tom McGuinness
<b>4. NCMT ACTION LOG</b>			
	Update deferred.		Tom McGuinness
<b>5. PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE</b>			
	<p><b>KK:</b> Last 14-day period.  Case numbers - 23% increase compared to previous period (15,000).  Hospital admissions - 44% increase compared to previous period (546).  ICU admissions - 77% increase compared to previous period (36).</p> <p><b>Outbreaks - Week 42*</b>  *Provisional data may change, subject to validation.  143 new outbreaks in the last week.  7 in nursing homes and community hospitals/long-stay unit.  14 in residential care facilities.  4 in hospitals.  11 in vulnerable populations.  12 workplace outbreaks.  8 in schools.</p>		Dr Kevin Kelleher

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	<p>2 in childcare facilities.</p> <p><b>KK:</b> 300k remain unvaccinated. Possibility that non pharmaceutical intervention may be required.</p> <p><b>MC:</b> Increase in HAI reported. Increase in numbers attending ED's. Hospitals continue to manage isolation - options are limited due to patient volumes. Booster vaccinations option being implemented in hospitals as per NIAC advice. A number of HCWs in acute hospitals have acquired Covid 19, despite being fully vaccinated.</p> <p><b>DMcC:</b> Operational plan is being finalised to safeguard vaccine stock availability on site with associated capacities to administer same.</p>		<p>Dr Martin Cormican</p> <p>Damien McCallion</p>
<b>6. COMMUNITY OPERATIONS</b>			
	<p><b>YO'N:</b> Last 7-day period. 33 new outbreaks compared to 22 in the previous period. 16 in LTRCF compared to 8 in the previous period. 11.5% of Nursing Home capacity is unavailable due to outbreaks.</p>		<p>Yvonne O'Neill</p>

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<b>7. ACUTE OPERATIONS</b>			
	<p><b>LW:</b> ICU Surge Team Meetings took place over the weekend.  ICU Covid-19 Patients:  52% unvaccinated with 48% vaccinated.  36% increase in incidences - will impact on hospital presentations over coming days.  Increase in the median age, from 33 to 36 years.</p> <p>Sites are reviewing capacity for elective surgery.  A number of Private hospital bed days are being utilised.  Movement of further non-Covid services being considered.</p> <p><b>PR:</b> All arrangements for non-Covid urgent care with private hospitals to be put in place.</p> <p><b>LW:</b> Delta sub lineages, variant of interest AY.4 present in over 6,000 cases - representing the vast majority of cases overall.</p>		Liam Woods
<b>8. TESTING &amp; TRACING</b>			
	<p><b>DMcC:</b> While the demand for testing was down on the previous weekend, this may reflect similar fall offs in demand on Bank Holiday weekends.</p>		Damien McCallion

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	<p>Tends to be a surge in demand on the Tues/Weds following Bank Holidays. There is pressure on Contact Tracing, call 3s. To scope automation options with <b>FT</b>, CIO to ease pressures.</p> <p><b>KK:</b> If the expected surge on testing occurs, impact expected in terms of number of hospital cases by the weekend, adding additional system strain.</p> <p><b>DMcC:</b> Surge plans for testing are being reviewed in anticipation of increased demand. Plans for the vaccination of overs 60s and medically vulnerable to be finalised this week. Planning for vaccination of HCWs will commence, in anticipation of NIAC's recommendation of same.</p>		<p>Fran Thompson</p>
<b>9. AOB</b>			
	<p><b>SM:</b> Raised what the current HSE advice is to non-patient facing HSE staff as regards the return to working onsite.</p> <p><b>PR:</b> Advised complete caution and while people are keen to return - meetings should continue to take place online.</p> <p><b>JD:</b> HR will draw up guidance on same.</p>		<p>Stephen Mulvany</p> <p>Paul Reid</p> <p>John Delamere</p>

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>			
	NCMT #106 Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 @ 09.00hrs.		