

Meeting: National Crisis Management Team. Meeting #106 COVID-19.

Date: Tuesday 09th November 2021 @ 09:00 hrs.

Members: Paul Reid, CEO; Anne O'Connor, COO; Anne Marie Hoey, ND HR; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; Mark Brennock, ND Communications; Dean Sullivan, CSPO; 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; Tom McGuinness, AND Emergency Management; John Kelly, Head of Corporate Affairs; Dr John Cuddihy, Director HPSC.

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

Apologies: Stephen Mulvany, CFO; Dr Máirín Boland, National Clinical Lead, Health Threats Emergency Preparedness Programme; Fran Thompson, CIO; Liam Woods, Acute Operations; Angela Fitzgerald, Acute Operations; Dr Siobhán Ní Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care.

| Topic | Discussion | Action | Owner |
|--------------------------------|---|--------|-----------------|
| 1. INTRODUCTION | | | |
| | The CEO opened NCMT #106. | | |
| 2. PREVIOUS MINUTES | | | |
| | Minutes of NCMT #105 approved. | | Cahir O'Byrne |
| 3. NPHET ACTION LOG | | | |
| | Update deferred. | | Tom McGuinness |
| 4. NCMT ACTION LOG | | | |
| | Update deferred. | | Tom McGuinness |
| 5. PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE | | | |
| | <p>JC: Summary of the last 14-day period (up to 07NOV2021).</p> <p>Case numbers - 42,619 representing a 41.5% increase from 27,958 cases in the preceding 14-day period.</p> <p>National incidence - 41.5% increase from 587 to 895 per 100k compared to previous 14-day period.</p> <p>Median age 35yrs.</p> <p>67% of cases are <45.</p> <p>While case numbers have increased significantly, these do not seem to be converting to hospital admissions at a similar rate at this time. There may be a lag effect, so the higher case numbers may yet lead to increased rate of hospitalisation.</p> | | Dr John Cuddihy |

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| | <p>Hospital admissions - 519 vs 445, a 15.3% increase compared to previous period.</p> <p>ICU admissions – 30 vs 27, a 10.5%, increase compared to previous period.</p> <p>Outbreaks - Week 44* *Provisional data may change, subject to validation. 173 new outbreaks in the last week. 3 in nursing homes 2 in community hospitals/long-stay unit. 20 in residential care facilities. 10 in acute hospitals. 11 in vulnerable populations. 24 workplace outbreaks. 2 new outbreaks in schools (34 outbreaks reported, but only 2 of these are new). 7 in childcare facilities.</p> <p>MC: Week ending 31st October 21 53 hospital acquired cases representing an increase. 48 outbreaks. >300 Additional acute hospital staff on Covid related leave. Booster vaccinations for HCWs and those over 60 presenting or working in hospital remains a key priority.</p> | | <p>Dr Martin Cormican</p> |

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| 6. COMMUNITY OPERATIONS | | | |
| | <p>YO’N: Last 7-day period. Seeing a decrease in the number of outbreaks in older persons services. Average number of associated positive cases in is reducing. 10% of Older Persons services are experiencing outbreaks. Over >230 staff in Older Persons on Covid related sick leave.</p> <p>HSE West private nursing home is being supported due to staff related COVID leave. Liaising with HIQA regarding same.</p> | | Yvonne O’Neill |
| 7. ACUTE OPERATIONS | | | |
| | <p>AO’C: Concern over the increase in staff testing positive for Covid and the number of staff being unavailable for work as a result of Covid related sick leave. Sites are busy with an increase in trolley use to accommodate patients.</p> | | Anne O’Connor |
| 8. TESTING & TRACING | | | |
| | <p>DMcC: Community referrals have increased by 20%. Capacity for swabbing is at 20k - some days’ figures have reached 22or 23k.</p> | | Damien McCallion |

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| | <p>85% of referrals are symptomatic. Positivity rate has increased from 7% to 15%. This surge has added pressure on contact tracing. Engaging with private organisations to seek assistance with capacity as a temporary measure.</p> <p>Booster vaccinations have commenced with 130k >80year olds and 26k in long term care administered. 305k HCWs to be vaccinated. These commenced last weekend. The program will run into Feb 2022 as HCWs require an interval of 6 months or more since their last vaccination, and many received those second doses in July and August 2021.</p> | | |
| 9. AOB | | | |
| | Nil. | | |
| NEXT MEETING | | | |
| | NCMT #107 Tuesday, 23rd November 2021 @ 08.30hrs. | | |