

**Meeting:** National Crisis Management Team. Meeting #91 COVID-19.

**Date:** Tuesday 22<sup>th</sup> June 2021 @ 08:30am.

**Members:** Paul Reid, CEO; Dr Lorraine Doherty, CL HPSC; Ann O'Connor, COO; Anne Marie Hoey, ND HR; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; John Kelly, Corporate Affairs; Dr Kevin Kelleher, AND Public Health; Dr Martin Cormican, National Lead on Infection Control; Ray Mitchell, Parliamentary Affairs; Sean Bresnan, ND Procurement; Dr Stephanie O'Keeffe, ND Health & Wellbeing, Tom McGuinness, AND National Emergency Management.

**In Attendance:** Dr Trish Markham, National Office for Emergency Management; Mary Heaney, Regional Emergency Management West.

**Apologies:** Dr Siobhán Ní Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care; Niamh O' Beirne, HSE EMT; Sinéad Fox, NiSRP Programme/NCMT Secretary.

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>			
	<p>The CEO opened NCMT #91.</p> <p>This meeting focused on the Delta Variant B.1.617.2.</p>		
<b>2. PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>			
	Minutes of NCMT #90 approved.		Sinéad Fox
<b>3. NPHET ACTION LOG</b>			
	No issues to report.		Dr Trish Markham
<b>4. NCMT ACTION LOG</b>			
	Review of actions deferred.		Dr Trish Markham
<b>5. PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE</b>			
	<p>LD: Epidemiological update.</p> <p>Noted: Data reported as of 18<sup>th</sup> June with most up to date data on Variants of Concern and Variants of Interest as of 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021.</p> <p>Number of new cases plateauing and slightly decreasing.</p> <p>284 newly confirmed cases on 20/06/21. 4,534 cases over last 14-day period. Median age 25 yrs. 84.2% of cases &lt;45 yrs.</p>		Dr Lorraine Doherty & Dr Kevin Kelleher

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	<p>National incidence rate of 95.2/100K. Counties with the highest 14-day incidence rate are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limerick at 324.3/100K</li> <li>• Donegal at 189.1/100K</li> <li>• Carlow at 161.6/100K.</li> </ul> <p><b>Outbreaks - Week 23*</b> *Provisional data, may change, subject to validation 80 new outbreaks notified in the last week. 1 in nursing home. Zero in community hospitals/long-stay unit. Zero in residential care facilities. 1 in acute hospital. 6 were travel related. 6 in vulnerable populations. 19 workplace outbreaks. 13 in schools.</p> <p><b>Global Epidemiology</b> USA, India and Brazil have the highest number of cumulative cases and cumulative deaths.</p> <p><b>COVID-19 Variants of Concern (as at 21 June)</b> Brazilian variant P1 (Gamma), 29 cases identified in Ireland to date.</p>		

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	<p>South African variant B.1.351 (Beta), 72 cases identified in Ireland to date.</p> <p>Delta variant B.1.617.2, 209 cases identified in Ireland to date (sequenced).</p> <p>Probable variant of concern (Beta / Gamma), 96 cases identified in Ireland to date. Genome Sequencing continues.</p> <p>Delta variant peaked in week 18. From week 18-22 cases have not increased.</p> <p>Delta variant accounts for 20% of all Irish cases.</p> <p>In the UK the majority of cases are the Delta variant.</p> <p>In Northern Ireland 40-50% of cases are the Delta variant.</p> <p>Significant work ongoing to actively, retrospectively contact trace Delta cases.</p> <p>Time lag noted between sequencing and identifying Delta variant. New PCR Test to be introduced to quickly identify Delta variant prior to being sequenced.</p> <p>Delta cases hospitalisations/ICU admissions to be monitored closely.</p>		

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	<p><b>COVID-19 Variants of Interest</b> Continuing to monitor a list of variants of interest, aligned with the UK and the WHO list.</p> <p>CH: Outbreaks being monitored. Number of cases being monitored – enhanced contact tracing continues in order to identify all cases.</p> <p>LD: In the main, Delta variant cases are associated with travel and is spreading within families and social networks. Hospitalisations and ICU admissions being closely monitored.</p>		
<b>6. TESTING &amp; TRACING</b>			
	<p><b>Travel related testing</b> Responding to and monitoring reports circulating re free HSE PCR testing to people travelling.</p> <p><b>Antigen Testing Pilot</b> Continuing to progress the commencement of an Antigen Testing Pilot.</p> <p>Work continues with Public Health and wider colleagues to develop the overall future testing strategy.</p>	<p>Letter being prepared to send to the Secretary General regarding same.</p>	<p>Stephanie O’Keeffe</p>

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<b>7. AOB</b>			
	Nil.		
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>			
	<b>NCMT #92 Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021 @ 09:00</b>		