

Meeting: National Crisis Management Team. Meeting #93 COVID-19.

Date: Tuesday 6th July 2021 @ 09:00am.

Members: Paul Reid, CEO; Anne O'Connor, COO; Anne Marie Hoey, ND HR; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; Damien McCallion, ND COVID Vaccination Lead; Dean Sullivan, CSPO; Joe Ryan, ND National Services; John Kelly, Corporate Affairs; Dr Kevin Kelleher, AND Public Health; Liam Woods, ND Acute Operations; Dr Martin Cormican, National Lead on Infection Control; Niamh O'Beirne, HSE EMT; Ray Mitchell, Parliamentary Affairs; Sean Bresnan, ND Procurement; Dr Siobhán Ní Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care; Stephen Mulvany, CFO; Tom McGuinness, AND National Emergency Management; Yvonne O'Neill, Community Operations.

In Attendance: Dr Trish Markham, National Office for Emergency Management; Sinéad Fox, NiSRP Programme/NCMT Secretary.

Apologies: Nil.

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
1. INTRODUCTION			
	The CEO opened NCMT #93.	Monitor and prepare for rise in cases as a result of the Delta variant.	
2. PREVIOUS MINUTES			
	Minutes of NCMT #92 approved.		Sinéad Fox
3. NPHET 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>Epidemiology Update.</p> <p>CH: 5-day moving average is increasing. Hospitalisation rate in UK and Scotland is rising as a result of the Delta variant, of which 8.9% are fully vaccinated. Delta is the dominant variant across Europe. 72% of cases in Ireland are Delta variant and rising.</p> <p>KK: Positive cases are rising, may peak in late July or early August. Delta is no longer a variant of concern, it is Ireland's virus. Close monitoring of hospitalisations and ICU cases.</p>		Dr Colm Henry & Dr Kevin Kelleher

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	<p>5,498 cases over last 14-day period. Median age 24yrs. 84.5% of cases <45yrs. National incidence rate of 115.5/100K. Counties with the highest 14-day incidence rate are Donegal at 342.4/100K, Waterford at 226.4/100K and Sligo at 215.4/100K. Hospitalisations, ICU Admissions and Deaths data not available due to the cyber-attack. 365 new cases reported in last 24hrs.</p> <p>Outbreaks - Week 25* *Provisional data, may change, subject to validation. 104 new outbreaks notified in the last week. zero in nursing homes. 1 in community hospitals/long-stay unit. 1 in residential care facilities. 1 in hospitals. 9 were travel related. 3 in vulnerable populations. 27 Workplace Outbreaks. 23 in schools. 7 in childcare facilities.</p> <p>Global Epidemiology USA, India and Brazil have the highest number of cumulative cases and cumulative deaths.</p>		

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	<p>COVID-19 Variants</p> <p>Brazilian/Gamma variant P1, 29 cases identified in Ireland. Remains stable.</p> <p>South African/Beta variant B.1.351, 72 cases identified in Ireland. Remains stable.</p> <p>Indian/Delta variant B.1.617.2, 316 cases identified in Ireland. This is now the primary variant in Ireland.</p>		
6. OPERATIONS UPDATE			
	<p>AO'C: Modelling done is being reviewed, the projected numbers may not be as high as previously, however when they are added to the current occupancy and capacity, as well as the ongoing cyber-attack catch up, scheduled care will be impacted.</p> <p>MC: Healthcare workers have been vaccinated, but some vaccinated healthcare staff have had mild disease. It is hoped with the high numbers of healthcare staff vaccinated, the potential scale of a further wave may not be the same as previous.</p>		Anne O'Connor
7. ACUTE OPERATIONS			
	LW: Safety Net Agreement with Private Hospitals is still in existence and due to		Liam Woods

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	<p>the CONTI cyber-attack in May 2021 is still in use. The arrangement was for 12months originally.</p> <p>Review of hospital bed and ICU capacity on-going to identify full capacity in the event of a surge of admissions.</p>	<p>LW to confirm the expiration date of this agreement.</p>	
8. TESTING & TRACING			
	<p>Testing: There were approx. 14,000 referrals for testing yesterday, which is the highest number of referrals since 11/01/21. This is an increase of 30% on last Monday, which in turn was a 30% increase on the previous Monday. Usually the trend was that Monday has the highest referral rate, but with new referral methods this is being monitored to see if there is a rise later in the week.</p> <p>Testing capacity is between 15-16,000 test/day.</p> <p>Positivity rising slightly to 4.7%, this excludes the 'not detected' cases in acute system.</p> <p>Surge planning for testing and tracing in progress. Reviewing a plan of testing without swabbing, i.e. The role of antigen testing, and home PCR/antigen</p>		<p>Niamh O'Beirne</p>

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	<p>testing. This will increase the testing capacity.</p> <p>NAS and Defence Forces have been engaged to support testing and tracing.</p> <p>Tracing: Reviewing different technologies to assist with contact tracing. Source investigation and online forms.</p> <p>Meeting with Scottish colleagues to learn about their testing model - up to 40,000 cases per day in Scotland and they are using home testing.</p>		
9. AOB			
	SB: Will review the PPE supplies and confirm stock levels.	Establish levels of PPE.	Sean Bresnan
NEXT MEETING			
	NCMT #94 Tuesday, 13th July 2021 @ 09:00.		