From:	Graham Medley [phpugmed@	**I&S**
Sent:	15/03/2020 12:20:09 PM	
To:	Angela Mclean [angela.mclean@	**I&S**
Subject:	Re: Great SPI-M job	

Dear Angela

Thank you - it is, not surprisingly, the hardest thing that I have ever done professionally or personally. Gaining consensus is getting exponentially easier.

Your table is useful, and setting a target of the number of hospitalisations per week (which is going to be the best data stream we can predict) would be very helpful. How many lockdowns we will need, what is included and their duration we will have to fumble our way through, but at least we would then have a number to model at. As ever, agreeing a target that is both policy and modelling friendly is key to getting models as helpful as possible.

The cocooning issue needs to be moved quickly rather than perfectly. I understand CMO's position that government advice has to be for all, but more importantly it has to be now. Preventing hospitalisations will be more efficient and sustainable than preventing infections. I remain very skeptical about household quarantine as a viable intervention on its own, but shielding/cocooning is vital (literally and metaphorically).

We are having real data issues - last night's download was (again) a complete mess. SPI-M are not getting traction with PHE on this. Whilst John Edmunds has always been prone to overheat, he is expressing an absolute frustration. Can ram home the concept that models without data are useless, please. It's not that the data don't exist, it's the lack of admin to get it to us in a form we can use with as few delays as is humanly possible.

The nosocomial issue is not getting enough attention. It is very likely that this is being an important amplifier and impacts significantly on both transmission and disease. Your point about R0 being overestimated at the start of an epidemic was well taken - and it might be nosocomial that is the core group we are seeing at the moment.

We are very lucky to have quantitative scientists as CSA - yourself, Charlotte and John Aston could really form a core ensuring that SPI-M is doing the right things, and that our work is being interpreted appropriately. You speak both languages. If we are going to fumble our way through to herd immunity with as little death as possible, then we will need this interface.

Best wishes

Graham

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On 15 Mar 2020, at 11:46, Angela Mclean <angela.mclean(@ I&S wrote:

Dear Graham,

I think you are doing a great job chairing SPi-M, and SPi-M is doing a great job answering v difficult questions. It's very useful to hear when it is your consensus view.

I've sent the attached musings to Patrick Valance and the Sage mailbox. I very much hope they are not seen as a list of work for SPI-M, more some conversations that I think Sage should have. Do let me know if my table has somehow acquired more zeros than it ought to have. That would be a relief.

See you Tuesday,

Angela

<Letter for PV.docx>