

Devolved Administration (DA) Modelling Meeting (Skype, 15:30, 27th April 2020)

Attendees

- **Chair:** Mel Giarchi (MG) - Scottish Government (SG)
- [NR] - SG
- [NR] – DHSC & SPI secretariat
- [NR] NHS England
- Declan Bradley – Northern Ireland (NI)
- [NR] (ES) – NI
- Brendan Collins - Welsh Government (WG)
- Craiger Solomons (WG)
- [NR] (WG)
- [NR] (WG)

Apologies

- [NR] – PHW Observatory
- [NR] Cabinet office (Uk Gov)

Minutes (actions) from previous DA meeting

LA commented that the minutes referred to in the previous minutes (dated 24th April) referred to an incorrect date (17th rather than 20th April). WG agreed to change the date and recirculate.

Round robin

England:

Different models have been interacted together to make one model (called Foundry, previously PPDS). [NR] asked whether the group had access to this model and are using it.

ACTION: [NR] to arrange access to Foundry for [NR] once it is finalised in the next few days.

The Imperial model goes into Foundry, and the Oxford model (which can be tweaked) has been fully incorporated into it and can be quickly run through with the outputs going directly into all the other models. Epidemiology models are produced for different regions and trusts. As well as this, short term forecasting models, community care models, and PPE and workforce models are outputted.

England are looking at the baseline of covid verses non-covid activity and how various interventions could affect those. The main focus is on aligning and streamlining and including every setting in model. [NR] stated inequalities work has been carried out allowing the epidemiology model to go down to a subpopulation. He added his colleague ([NR]) produced a paper which [NR] intends to share tomorrow morning to be discussed at Friday's DA meeting.

ACTION: [NR] to share the inequalities paper with the group tomorrow morning.

Wales

The main priorities for Wales are measuring the effect of R_t on different options and investigating different ways to model activity; admissions, ICU, etc. CS added that we want to evaluate which metrics (socioeconomic impact, indirect harms etc) are to be covered and decide upon a desired R_t value taking NHS capacity into account.

The WG are also investigating inequalities mainly looking at deaths data for both Covid and non-Covid related deaths. BC commented that he would share something around on this.

ACTION: BC to share document with the group on inequalities in deaths data.

Northern Ireland

NI have matched hospital records to lab results and implemented this into internal modelling. NR added NI are also considering different social distancing measures.

Scotland

It took 52 hours for the SG to run the Imperial College code using a super computer. The Scottish curve now better fits the seeding and population structure for Scotland. MG commented that the Warwick model was sent around this morning which went into SPI and covers all DAs.

ACTION: Secretariat to send an email copying the DAs in to invites.

Nowcasting

NR at DSTL received an email asking for visualisations and underlying data along. MG added that we are due to receive the “people tree” nowcasts for each DA every Monday and Friday.

Reasonable worst case (RWC) discussion

In the previous meeting, the new RWC was discussed. The main points were deciding what RWC is appropriate for all 4 countries and determining how it's linked to R_t ? It was noted that health services in different DA's having different capacities so a UK RWC may not be specific for DAs. NR added that previous curves couldn't be used as they didn't fit. The group stated it would be good to be involved in discussions deciding what RWC would be appropriate.

ACTION: NR to chase invites for the planning scenario sub group to ensure all DAs are invited and to find out what is going on in relation to the RWC work.

ⁱⁱ CCS pushing for RWC scenarios working better for DAs. Commission planning scenarios decided by CCS. Keep pushing.

AOB

Look at IFR. 86% of deaths occur in hosp. implication on IFR.

ACTION: Share work with group as soon as can

NI to chair the next meeting taking place on Friday 1st May.

Outstanding actions (not discussed this meeting)

- MG to send around the paper SG have put together listing requirements to send to SPI-M, and others to review. This action is to be kept ongoing for the next few meetings.
- Mel to share link to the Edinburgh University calculation. Ongoing - BC to follow up