

Health Gold Sitrep

COVID-19

Department of Health - Gold SitRep: **#15**

Information correct as at: **21/04/2020 @ 18:00**

New information is underlined and in bold text

Emergency Operations Centre Contacts for: 21/04/2020

Chief of Staff: **NR**

Contact no: **I&S**

Email address: healthgold.chiefstaff@health-ni.gov.uk

Alternative contact no: **I&S**

Alternative email address: healthgold.opscell@health-ni.gsi.gov.uk

LATEST HEALTH PROTECTION INFORMATION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Confirmed cases: 2,758	Individuals tested: 15,913	Total tests completed: 17,692	Testing capacity: 1,808	Deaths: 220
-------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------	--------------------

1a. Summary

Key Updates

- [PPE Provision – DoH has today authorised a release of a number of PPE items from the PIPP stockpile to support Trusts until stock procured by BSO arrives.](#)
- Care Homes – a total of **86 out of 428 care homes report flu-like illnesses, with 57 recording Covid-19 cases**. RQIA inspectors will continue to engage with homes to ensure AGP are only undertaken with appropriate PPE
- RQIA reported the passing of a Dom Care Agency Worker with suspect Covid19
- Surge planning – DoH Modelling Group expect the wave 1 peak to be less severe than originally expected. ICU beds expected to be required in RWCS scenario has been reduced from 140 to 90. Further meeting taking place on 21/04/2020
- [Testing: Craigavon MOT Centre due to open as test centre for HCWs tomorrow - 22/04/2020](#)
- PPE – Central database of organisations, businesses and publicly-funded and voluntary bodies (inc. educational institutions) wishing to offer/donate PPE supplies developed from 17/04/2020

Items for Escalation to NI Hub

- Continued challenges regarding PPE provision – 17/4/2020
- Testing of non-Health Care Workers falls outside current testing protocol. Particular issues escalated by Belfast City Council – 17/4/2020

Media & Comms

- Guidance: PHE published *Managing a Funeral during the Coronavirus pandemic* – 19/04/2020
- Guidance: *Verifying Life Extinct (VLE) Guidelines & Protocol for Nurses* published
- Guidance: HSS(MD) 26/2020 *Guidance on reuse of PPE* issued – 19/04/2020
- Guidance: *Covid-19 - Information and Resources for the Allied Health Professions (AHP) Workforce in Northern Ireland* issued – 20/04/2020
- [Resources: Launch of online version of Covid-19 App announced – 21/04/2020](#)
- [Press Release: Significant decrease in child protection referrals in Northern Ireland – issued 21/04/2020](#)

[DateTime]

2



2a. Update on testing, cases and fatalities

Testing

- The total number of individuals tested to date is 15,913. The methodology changed on 20/04/2020 – previous PHA reports counted individuals more than once if their tests were separated by more than 14 days. DoH reporting now counts unique individuals tested – [IAD data reports that 236 individuals were tested the previous day](#). Testing is now carried out across 9 sites in NI, with testing at Balmoral, [Craigavon \(from 22/04/2020\)](#) and Ards MOT Centres, SSE Arena and City of Derry RFC
- Testing capacity reported across NI for the 24hr period yesterday totalled **1,808th** possible tests:
 - BHSCT: **1,242 (421)** / 1,242 possible tests completed, inc. **105** HCWs
 - NHSCT: **150 (84)** / 150 possible tests completed, inc. **40** HCWs
 - SHSCT: **120 (109)** / 120 possible tests completed, inc. **44** HCWs
 - WHSCT: **96 (72)** / 48 possible tests completed, inc. **0** HCWs
 - SSE Arena: **100 (26)** / 100 possible tests completed – all HCWs
 - City of Derry RFC: **100 (35)** / 100 possible tests completed – all HCWs

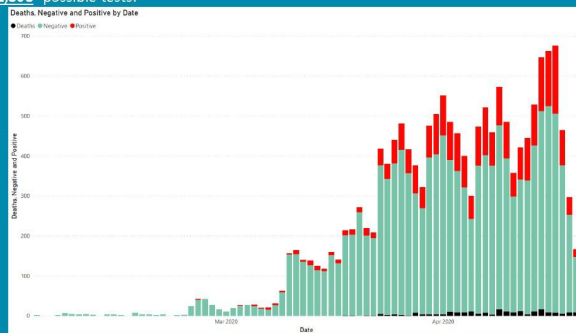
Cases

- 30** additional people have tested positive for COVID-19 in NI, bringing the total to **2,758***

Fatalities

- NI fatalities total: **220** – **13** additional deaths notified since yesterday
- Information from PHA being sought to deaths of HCWs in NI

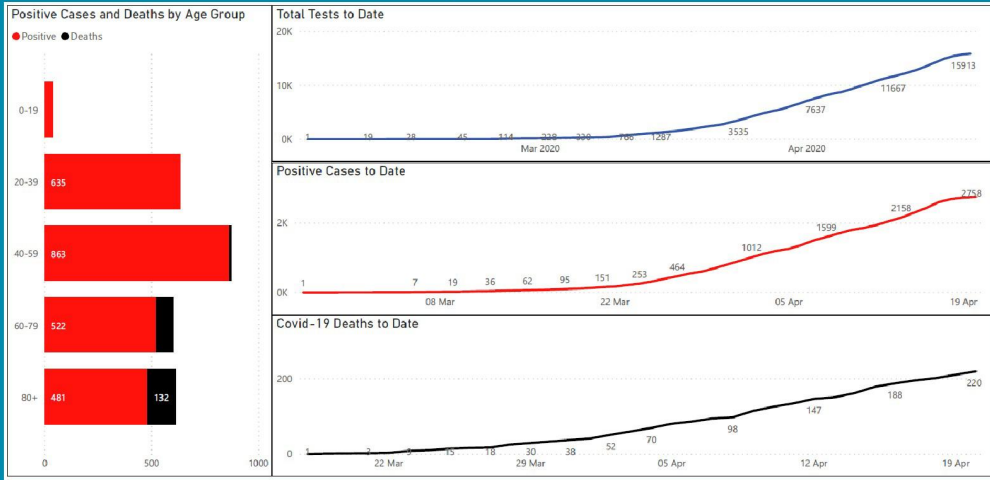
*Data from IAD correct at 11:00 21/04/2020 *Data from PHA correct at 13:30 21/04/2020



[DateTime]

3

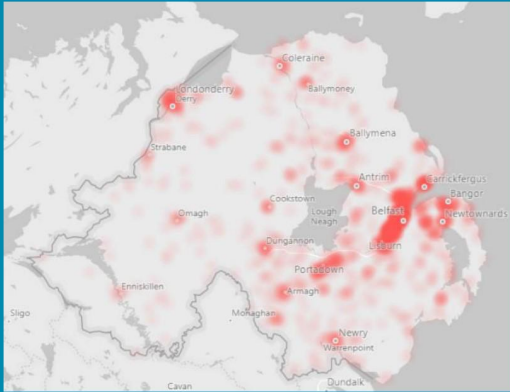
2b. Total tests, cases and deaths in NI



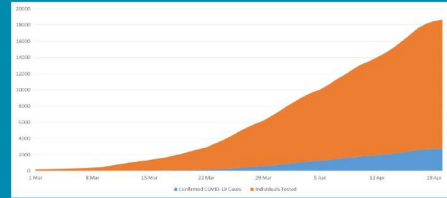
[DateTime]

2c. Data on testing, confirmed cases and fatalities

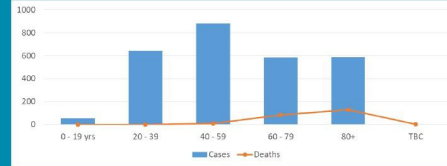
NI geographical distribution - cases



Cumulative testing in NI



Cases/fatalities in NI – by age group



[DateTime]

5

3a. Update on Healthcare

Summary

- Testing: PHA Health Protection team asked to implement testing for all care home staff & residents – will require and rely on Trust support for testing and support to care homes
- PPE: BSO received additional PIPP stock, but at lower volumes than requested. Continue to report insufficient volumes to meet demands. Have again requested release of additional PIPP stock
- Planning: Modelling Of Outbreaks In Care Homes – plans have been shared by Trust colleagues in relation to prevention, mitigation and service response and a range of actions agreed to strengthen care homes that do not have an outbreak currently in respect of IPC, testing and contact tracing. The issue of review of Falls Policy was also discussed on this telecall. Further work will be ongoing this week

Ongoing key issues		Rag
	DNAR (Do Not Attempt Resuscitation) Guidance required	Red
	ECMO: Access to service for Covid+ patients - clarity on transfers	Red
	Death Reporting: Clarity sought - RIDDOR and HCW Death reporting	Red
Communications		
Media/Public	RQIA reported the passing of a Domiciliary Care Agency worker with suspected Covid-19.	
	New maternity website launched to advise pregnant women during COVID-19	
	<u>Advice on safer shopping during COVID-19 and translations</u>	
Decisions for GOLD		
	<u>Supply: Amended business case on oxygen supply – submitted 21/04/2020</u>	
	<u>Guidance: COVID-19: Prisons & other Prescribed Places of Detention Guidance in Northern Ireland draft guidance submitted for approval – 21/04/2020</u>	
	<u>Contact Tracing: PID for Phase 1 of initial set-up of Covid-19 Contact Management Program – submitted 21/04/2020</u>	

[DateTime]

6

3b. Healthcare: Status – by Trust and sector – as at 21/04/2020

Report correct as at 14 April 2020	Can maintain business critical services for next...		Can maintain emergency care pathway for next...		Can maintain acute medicine service for next...		Can support major incident response for next...		Has sufficient workforce for next...		Has sufficient mortuary facilities for next...		Has sufficient oxygen capacity for next...	
	24hrs	72hrs	24hrs	72hrs	24hrs	72hrs	24hrs	72hrs	24hrs	72hrs	24hrs	72hrs	24hrs	72hrs
BHSCT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SEHSCT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SHSCT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
NHSCT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
WHSCT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
NIBTS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NIAS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N/A	N/A	Y	Y
Community Services	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N/A	N/A	Y	Y
Primary Care	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N/A	N/A	Y	Y
Nursing & Residential	Y	Y	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

[DateTime]

3c. Healthcare by numbers

ICU Patients*

- Totals of 115 adult and 8 child ICU beds
- Adult Covid-19 ICU patients: 41 (includes confirmed or suspected). Non covid-19 ICU patients: 40 Spare ICU beds: 34
- Child Covid-19 ICU patients: 0. Non Covid-19 ICU patients: 4. Spare ICU beds: 4

General and Acute Patients*

- Totals of 3,758 G&A beds, Covid-19 patients: 671 (includes confirmed or suspected). Non covid-19 patients: 1,395. Spare G&A beds: 1,692

Mechanical Ventilation*

- 61 patients undergoing mechanical ventilation – (includes 60 Adult patients (60 in ICU, 0 patients in CICU) and 1 in PICU^{***})

Ventilator Supply

- Total supply of ventilator: 197[§]

PPE Stock – based on Covid-19 demand

- Hand hygiene: 7,015 – ▼ 86% decrease since 14/4/2020
- FFP3 face masks: 999,150 – ▼ 4% decrease
- Aprons: 5,233,500 – ▼ 7% decrease
- IIR face masks: 3,653,600 – ▼ 6% decrease
- Gowns: 234,760 – ▼ 18% decrease
- Eye protectors: 522,500 – ▼ 72% increase
- Gloves: 18,352,050 – ▼ 5% decrease
- Body Bags: 300
- Swabs: 50,000
- Clinical waste bags (Orange): 1,713,600 ▲ 20% increase
- Clinical waste bags (Yellow): 14,400 – ► no change
- Clinical waste containers: 13,450 – ► no change
- Cleaning equipment: 6,708,549 – ▲ 3000% increase
- General purpose detergent: 5,514 – ▼ 1% decrease

* Data correct at 16:00 21/04/2020 § Ventilator supply data correct as of 17/4/2020

Stockpile data correct as of 17/04/2020

[DateTime]



3d. Primary Care Covid-19 Centres

Covid-19 Centres – 1 Apr to 13 Apr (inc)

Trusts	Covid-19 Centre	Capacity	CCG Referrals	HCW Testing
BHSCT	Beech Hall HCC	1,960	445	55
NHSCT	Antrim Adult Centre	1,568	328	30
	Ballymena OOHs	1,568		
SEHSCT	Ards Community Hospital	2,352	190	30
	Lagan Valley Hospital	1,568		
	Downe Hospital	1,176		
SHSCT	Banbridge	1,764	178	45
	South Tyrone Hospital	1,764		
WHSCT	Altnagelvin	784	159	15
	SWAH	784		
Totals		15,288	1300	175

Points to note

- Data provided here covers CCG day-time referrals from GP practices only. Weekend & evening data from OOH still to be reported – HSCB working to build a complete reporting picture
- Numbers of referrals to date are below projections:
 - BHSCT: 29%~34% of capacity
 - NHSCT: 23%~26% of capacity
 - SHSCT: 14%~15% of capacity
 - SEHSCT: 14%~16% of capacity
 - WHSCT: 12%~16% of capacity
- Altnagelvin has reduced their rota by one GP and other sites are putting a small number of staff on standby
- Work is also ongoing to analyse demand at GP practices to see who is calling, who is referred to hospital and who is sent to centres. They also hope to capture Covid-19 related staff absence (current estimate is that ~160 GPs are off or working from home, out of 1365 GP)

[DateTime]



4a. Workforce Update

Summary

- Over 500 Northern Ireland doctors, 1,600 nurses, 450 Allied Health Professionals and 400 Social Workers were contacted by their regulatory bodies to consider rejoining their registers provisionally under emergency provisions.
- Over 200 recently retired pharmacists will be temporarily registered under provisions in the Coronavirus Act 2020.
- Final year students are being deployed earlier than planned.
- HSC Workforce Appeal was launched on 27 March and has generated **18,710** expressions of interest, which have been converted into **11,327** formal applications to date – a conversion rate of nearly **61%** – **well over double** what could normally be expected in a recruitment campaign.
- Work on the early registration of final year students is progressing well with universities and employers.
- **Approx. 900 2nd Year students will be available from 22/5/2020**
- **Support from Environmental Health Officers offered, with experience in contact tracing**

Key Updates

- From the Workforce Appeal, **314** people have been offered or appointed to posts. **3,851** are job ready or about to be job ready, subject to completion of final checks
- **3,047** clinical applications have been prioritised for processing. This includes former doctors and nurses who are returning to service, many from retirement
- **8,280** non-clinical/support worker applications, crucial in our response to Covid-19, will now be processed
- Online applications have been paused, while clinical and non-clinical/support applications are worked through. The campaign is sophisticated and social media-driven, so further expressions of interest can be sought quickly if there are further areas of high demand
- Processes are being put in place to support the independent sector – in addition to the HSC – from applicants to the Workforce Appeal. **Sector to approach Trusts for access to staff**
- In total, as of 16 April, across Medicine, Nursing & Midwifery, AHP and Social Work, there is a potential 2,716 students available for redeployment, with 863 of these having already been deployed. It is anticipated the numbers available for redeployment will rise.

[DateTime]

10

4b. Workforce Update

Trust Staff Absences

HSC Trusts Headcount: 69,524 – w/c 13/04/2020	07/04/2020		08/04/2020		09/04/2020		10/04/2020		13/04/2020		14/04/2020		15/04/2020	
No. staff absent due to sickness (excluding COVID-19)	2,529	3.7%	2,512	3.6%	3,951	5.7%	2,493	3.6%	3,653	5.3%	3,411	4.9%	3,755	5.40%
No. staff absent due to COVID-19	318	0.5%	301	0.4%	430	0.6%	274	0.4%	349	0.5%	328	0.5%	360	0.52%
No. staff absent due to SELF-ISOLATION	1,172	1.7%	1,140	1.6%	1,502	2.2%	1,430	2.1%	1,558	2.2%	1,574	2.3%	1,719	2.47%
Totals (All sick leave, COVID-19 and Self-isolation)	4,019	5.8%	3,953	5.7%	5,883	8.5%	4,197	6.1%	5,560	8.0%	5,313	7.6%	5,834	8.39%

[DateTime]

11

5a. Adult Social Care Update

Care Homes: location of care homes with Covid-19 outbreaks – correct 21/4/2020



Care homes with confirmed Covid-19 cases – correct as at 21/4/2020

- Of 428 care homes, **86** report flu-like illnesses, of which **57** are reported as Covid-19 cases:
 - BHSCT: **20** cases (of which **16** cases reported as Covid-19)
 - NHSCT: **21** cases (of which **12** cases reported as Covid-19)
 - SEHSCT: **15** cases (of which **11** cases reported as Covid-19)
 - SHSCT: **16** cases (of which **10** cases reported as Covid-19)
 - WHSCT: **14** cases (of which **8** cases reported as Covid-19)

Updates iro care homes

- Care homes in NI raising issues around financial pressures.
- Decision taken to start testing of all symptomatic residents in care homes with a potential incident/outbreak. Policy change communicated via RQIA & PHA

[DateTime]

12

5b. Care Homes – RQIA Update App monitoring

RQIA Covid-19 Support

RQIA is the key point for Care Homes and Domiciliary Care Agencies, providing support and guidance to help manage services safely and effectively during the pandemic. Service Managers can use the RQIA Update App to raise issues or seek guidance from inspectors.

The tables shown summarise the nature of issues raised through the RQIA Update App over the past 3 weeks. Data is split into tables for Nursing Homes and Residential Homes, broken down by Trust.

RQIA report that 'Other' includes contacts dealing with multiple issues and not included in the specified categories, such as issues in relation to individual service users, client isolation, adherence to social distancing, testing and COVID-19-related medicines issues.

*Data correct at 11:00 17/04/2020

Nursing Homes reports*: 26/03/2020 – 15/04/2020

Issue	Financial	Flu-like Symptoms	Guidance	PPE	Staffing	Visiting	Other	Total
BHSCT		3	8	6	8		93	118
NHSCT		4	28	22	14	1	91	160
SEHSCT		7	11	24	6	1	78	127
SHSCT	1	5	11	7	5		71	100
WHSCT		5	6	5	5	2	54	77

Residential Homes reports*: 26/03/2020 – 15/04/2020

Issue	Financial	Flu-like Symptoms	Guidance	PPE	Staffing	Visiting	Other	Total
BHSCT			10	6	5		61	82
NHSCT		2	13	5	12	1	64	97
SEHSCT		3	6	13	8	1	59	90
SHSCT			12	3	6		45	66
WHSCT		2	13	8	1		47	71

[DateTime]

13