

Actions

- NHS England to confirm finally with SPI-M the variables for which it needs numbers in order to model NHS demand
- UK academic modelling groups (Imperial, Oxford, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) and NHS planners to organise a working group (in week starting 2 March 2020) to analyse key clinical variables for reasonable worst case planning for the NHS: for review by SPI-M and then discussion at SAGE
- SPI-M to refine models to include consideration of age groups and geographical variation at its next meeting

Review of interventions to contain, delay or mitigate spread of COVID-19

10. SAGE reviewed a table summarising the impacts of non-pharmaceutical interventions – to be finalised at its next meeting.

11. Mitigations can be expected to change the shape of the epidemic curve or the timing of a first or second peak, but are not likely to reduce the overall number of total infections.

12. The optimal shape of the epidemic curve will differ according to sectoral or organisational priorities.

13. Modelling suggests that earlier and or combined interventions will have more significant impact. Such interventions would have to be maintained for an extended period.

14. On the risk posed by national and international travel associated with large events (for example sports), SAGE advised that the additional numbers travelling are not significant relative to overall numbers, but that this question should be further investigated.

15. On large events, SAGE noted that alternative or replacement behaviours (for example going to the pub instead of a stadium) would pose comparable risk.

Actions

- SPI-M, in support of the existing table on non-pharmaceutical interventions, to produce a narrative describing effects of interventions attempted in other countries, and develop illustrative scenarios showing the plausible impacts of combinations of interventions in the UK (simple visuals of epidemic curves) – for review at SAGE on 2 March 2020; existing table to be reviewed weekly to assess whether it requires updating
- DfT to produce numbers indicating numbers travelling to major sporting events, compared to overall numbers travelling, including from abroad

List of actions

- dCMO to circulate note outlining what information the CO-CIN report will capture