

Data and Modelling – Intersectoral Group

Minutes of meeting - Thursday, 12th March 2:00-3:00pm

Attendees: Philip Nolan (Chair), Pat Wall, Frances Butler, Simon More, Alan Barrett, Chris Brunson, Brendan Murphy, Derval Igoe, Breda Smyth

Secretariat: Rhona Gaynor, Martha Purcell

General Opening

Philip opened the meeting stating the purpose of the meeting – to update the group on what has been done since the initial meeting on 11th March and to put some shape on the next steps.

Terms of Reference and final group membership are yet to be formally finalized, but in the interest of time, the group agreed to proceed.

Simplified Modelling

- International patterns show exponential growth is likely somewhere between 0.2% to 0.5%
- Simplified modelling shows the impact of this in Ireland:
 - One week would see a range between 45 cases – 1,998 cases with 127 the predicted rate
 - End of month would see a range between 403 – 162755 cases with 2101 the predicted rate
- As new data is added (daily) confidence in the analysis will increase, but an exponential growth estimate is more accurate in early rather than later phases.
- This type of simplified modelling is ok in short-term not sufficient in longer-term

Building Longer-Term Predictive Modelling

- Ireland can adapt the UK or Canadian model to build accurate Irish analysis
- The Canadian model is more sophisticated and will require more data and adaptation (e.g. co-morbidities by age)
- The UK model is less complex, requiring less adaptation, and is preferable. We have the model but not the code yet - urgent follow up is required.
- If Ireland can source or extrapolate from (a) age-specific rates; (b) co-morbidity data; (c) geographic data we can build a high-quality model that accounts for severity and can support operational decisions.
- Ideally we would measure impact of counter-measures – this will impact number of cases but not severity of cases or health utilisation.

Actions

1. To establish two working groups

1. **Developing an Epidemiology Model Sub-Group**

- Led by: Chris and Brendan
- Members: Pat, Breda, Derval, Chris and Simon in addition to UCD resource
- Aim: To refine, develop and get a model up and running
- **Next steps:**
 - Confirm if we can get the UK code by 13 Mar 2020

- Of the different models, pick a common position
- Work quickly to decide which software the model will be built on

2. Health Service Demands Sub-Group

- Led by: Breda and Alan
- Members: Maureen Ryan, Conor Tejeur
- Aim: To take the outputs of group 1 and model how best to utilise resource to meet expected demand.
- Next Steps: Breda and Alan to have an alignment call, Rhona to engage DOH stats support incl. Health Atlas access.

2. To develop a mailing list and shared file provision (Secretariat)

3. To share updated international data or information on a daily basis (Secretariat)

Closing Remarks

- Information should be freely exchanged within the group, but group should be mindful of confidential nature of material
- Meetings will be scheduled at a regular time next week, e.g. 12pm to allow for working before/ after
- Terms of Reference is yet to be finalized but will be agreed in the coming days.

Next Meeting: Friday, 13th March at 4pm (virtual meeting – details will be emailed)