National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHET) Close Contact Report
12th to 18th October
Contents

Introduction .......................................................................................................................... 3
Key Findings ........................................................................................................................ 4
Close and complex contacts created week ending 18th October 2020 ....................... 6
  Volume of Contacts ......................................................................................................... 6
  Complex Contacts ......................................................................................................... 7
  Volume of Cases ........................................................................................................... 8
  Attendance at Testing ..................................................................................................... 8
  Close Contact Positivity Rates* ..................................................................................... 8
  Geographic location, circumstances, and symptomatic status ....................................... 9
  Complex Contacts ......................................................................................................... 11
Introduction

This report provides an analysis of close and complex contacts created on the Covidcare Tracker (CCT) for the week ending 18th October. Due to the increasing volume of close contacts now on the CCT, there are limitations to the analysis of outcomes that can now take place using current methodologies. Alternative options are being explored to ensure that we can continue to provide a more detailed analysis weekly.

Day 0 testing of all close contacts commenced on 19th May. Day 7 testing commenced on 28th May (for those whose last date of exposure was 21st May). Data are provisional. Analysis is based on the following data extracts as of 10pm, 4th October:

- CovidCareTracker (CCT) Extracts – Patient and Contacts
- Swiftqueue Referrals Extract
- Laboratory Results Extract

Clarifications:
Day 0 testing is arranged as soon as a Contact is informed they have been in close contact with a confirmed case. Day 7 testing is arranged on the true seventh day from last contact with the confirmed case where a Day 0 test was earlier than sixth day since last contact with case.

Limitations:
While attempts were made to identify alternative COVID-19 IDs for patients where data was incomplete, it was not possible in all instances.

Acknowledgements
Contact tracing for cases and contacts on the Covidcare Tracker is a collaborative effort between staff in the CMP and in regional Departments of Public Health.
Key Findings

All Close contacts, from 19th May, to 18th October 2020

Volume of Contacts
The number of contacts continues to rise, with 19,337 close contacts and 2,281 complex contacts captured during the week ending October 18th, representing 27% increase for close and an 18% for complex contacts, respectively.

Complex Contacts
The number of Educational Institutes captured as complex contacts increased by 46% (from 314 to 583) this week, the number of hospitals by 19% (126-150). However, there was a small decrease (10%) in the number of social venues recorded as complex contacts, from 382 to 343.

Volume of Cases
Total number of cases managed by the Contact Management Programme for the week ending 18th of October was 4,969. A week on week increase of 13%.

Attendance at Testing
Of the close contacts created between 11th and 18th October, to date 78% have attended for a test.

Close Contact Positivity Rate*
Close contact positivity rates over the past week (undifferentiated, Day 0/7) was 12.7%.
Close contacts created on CCT

Number of Close Contacts per Case since start of the Pandemic

The mean and median number of close contacts per case recorded on the CCT since the start of the pandemic, is illustrated below. There appears to be a recent downwards trend in the mean number of close contacts, while the median is remaining somewhat stable. This suggests that the number of people with large numbers of close contacts may be decreasing.

![Graph showing mean and median number of close contacts per case]

*Figure 1.1 - Mean and Median Number of Close Contacts per Case*
Volume of Contacts

The number of contacts continues to rise, with 19,337 close contacts and 2,281 complex contacts captured during the week ending October 18th, representing 27% and an 18% rise, respectively. It is possible that as well as occurrence of close contact, that recording on the CCT is improving with time.

Figure 2.1 - Close and Complex Contact Numbers
Complex Contacts
This week saw a further increase in the number of hospitals captured as complex contacts (126-150) which represents a 19% increase week on week. The number of social venues recorded as complex contacts decreased by 10% from 382 to 343. The number recorded in Educational Institutes increased from 314 to 583 by 46%.

![Reasons for Complexity](image)

*Figure 2.2 - Reason for Complexity*

Complex contacts are not necessarily unique occurrences. They are settings a case “attended” while infectious, which due to their complex nature, are referred to the local Department of Public Health for investigation and contact tracing.
Volume of Cases

The total number of cases managed by the Contact Management Programme for the week ending 18th October was 4,969, a week on week increase of 13% (Figure 2.3).

![Number of Cases Managed by CMP by Week](chart)

*Figure 2.3 - Volume of Cases Managed by CMP using CCT*

Attendance at Testing

Of the close contacts created between 11th and 18th October, to date 78% have attended for a test.

Close Contact Positivity Rates*

Close contact positivity rates over the past week (undifferentiated, Day 0/7) was 12.7%.
Geographic location, circumstance and symptomatic status, Close contacts - 12th to 18th October

Tables 2.2 to 2.6 and figures 2.7 to 2.10 below provide more detailed illustration of numbers, geographic location, circumstances and symptomatic status of close contacts.

Median and Mean close contacts per case
The mean and median number of close contacts per case recorded on the CCT for the last week, is outlined, below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/10/2020</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/10/2020</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/10/2020</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/10/2020</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16/10/2020</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/10/2020</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18/10/2020</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2.2 - Median and Mean Close Contacts per Case
Covid-19 Contact Management Programme (CMP)

Authors: Ms. Patricia Lulle, Ms. Davinia O’Donnell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>No. of Close Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>4,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid West</td>
<td>1,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
<td>975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East</td>
<td>2,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>2,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South East</td>
<td>1,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>1,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Recorded</td>
<td>3,143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>19,322</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2.3 - Close Contacts by Region

Figure 2.7 - Close Contacts by Region
Close Contact: Demographic Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Not Recorded</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-9</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>881</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,859</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-19</td>
<td>1,418</td>
<td>1,393</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19-29</td>
<td>1,592</td>
<td>1,770</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-39</td>
<td>953</td>
<td>855</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39-49</td>
<td>901</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49-59</td>
<td>934</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59-69</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69-79</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80+</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Recorded</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>968</td>
<td>2,146</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>8,301</td>
<td>8,275</td>
<td>2,727</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>19,337</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2.4 - Age and Gender of Close Contacts

Figure 2.8 - Breakdown of Close Contacts by Age and Gender
Close Contacts: Circumstances* and Symptoms 12th to 18th October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circumstances</th>
<th>Asymptomatic</th>
<th>Symptomatic</th>
<th>Unable To Verify</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare Facility: Patient</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare Facility: Staff</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household</td>
<td>5,706</td>
<td>1,511</td>
<td>935</td>
<td>8,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>3,270</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>4,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work</td>
<td>1,190</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>1,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Recorded</td>
<td>1,775</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>1,660</td>
<td>3,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td><strong>12,576</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,957</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,804</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,337</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The data reported here is incomplete for travel (flight) close contacts. This is being addressed.

Table 2.5 - Contact Circumstances and Symptoms

[Diagram: CIRCUMSTANCES OF CONTACT]

Figure 2.9 - Circumstances of Contact with Symptom Status

*Authors: Ms. Patricia Lulle, Ms.Davinia O’Donnell*
Complex Contacts – 12th to 18th October

Reasons for complexity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potential outbreak in another setting</td>
<td>938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Venue</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Institute</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Home</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Residential Care Setting</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Help Services</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member of the Traveller Community</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flight</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless Accommodation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand Total: 2,281

*Table 2.6 - Reason for Complexity*

![REASONS FOR COMPLEXITY](image)

*Figure 2.10 - Complex Contact Reason for Complexity*

*Ends.*