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7<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Via email to [cillian.degascun@ucd.ie](mailto:cillian.degascun@ucd.ie)

Dear Cillian

Thank you for the most recent advice submitted by the Expert Advisory Group (EAG) dated 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020 on the matter of *Healthcare Workers who are contacts of a confirmed case*. This was accepted as interim guidance for specific sites at the teleconference of the COVID-19 National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) today. The immediate development of national guidance on this matter will now commence by the HSE Health Protection Surveillance Centre.

To inform this national guidance, the NPHE seeks the expert advice and guidance of the EAG in relation to the following:

- 1. Should the guidance be refined to include different levels of risk, according to activities that a healthcare worker may have been (e.g. aerosol generating procedures) involved in?**
- 2. Are there specific groups of patients, and if so, which, that it would be appropriate to require to wear face masks through an acute hospital admission, with the aim of the protection of others, including healthcare workers?**

As the NPHE is due to meet again on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020, a timely response would be much appreciated.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and input of the EAG to date and thank you and the wider group for your ongoing support and contributions to the COVID-19 National Public Health Emergency response.

Yours sincerely

Dr Tony Holohan  
Chief Medical Officer