

Contact Management Programme

Testing of close contacts

From 19th May all close contacts were referred for testing, regardless of symptoms, at the time of phonecall to the contact (Day 0). All close contacts have been referred for a Day 7 test from 28th May. Results indicate that 8% of close contacts were positive for their Day 0 test, with 15% of symptomatic, and 7% of asymptomatic contacts being positive (Table 1). At Day 7, 5% overall were positive, 17% of those who were symptomatic, and 3% of those were asymptomatic being positive. Table 2 outlines the results for just the week from 1st to 7th June 2020.

Table 1: COVID-19 test results, Day 0 and Day 7 test results for close contacts identified 19/5/2020-7/6/20 (as of 2pm 9/6/20)

Result	Day 0 Test				Day 7 Test			
	Symptomatic No. (%)	Asymptomatic No. (%)	Not recorded No.	Total No. (%)	Symptomatic No.	Asymptomatic No.	Not recorded No.	Total No. (%)
Positive	27 (15)	75 (7)	6	108 (8)	6 (17)	6 (3)	0	12 (5)
Negative	157 (85)	1053 (93)	41	1251 (92)	29 (83)	202 (97)	7	238 (95)
Other	1 (<1)	2 (<1)		3 (<1)				
	185 (100)	1130 (100)	47	1362	35 (100)	208 (100)	7	250 (100)

Data are provisional

Other includes invalid/inhibitory/indeterminate

Those who had tested positive within the past three months were not re-tested

Some close contacts are managed off the CCT

Table 2: COVID-19 test results, Day 0 and Day 7 test results for close contacts identified 1-7/6/2020 (as of 2pm 9/6/20)

Result	Day 0 Test				Day 7 Test			
	Symptomatic No. (%)	Asymptomatic No. (%)	Not recorded No.	Total No. (%)	Symptomatic No.	Asymptomatic No.	Not recorded No.	Total No. (%)
Positive	4 (16)	9 (4)	1	14 (5)	0	1	0	1 (3)
Negative	21 (84)	211 (96)	8	240 (95)	1	27	1	29 (97)
Other				1				
	25 (100)	220 (100)	9	255 (100)	1	28	1	30 (100)

Data are provisional

Other includes invalid/inhibitory/indeterminate

Those who had tested positive within the past three months were not re-tested

Some close contacts are managed off the CCT

The CMP makes five attempts to contact the confirmed case. Voice mails are left at calls 1, 3 and 5 advising them of the purpose of the call. At least one call is made the following day. If, after five calls, no contact has been made, then the regional Department of Public Health is advised of the case. From next week, cases will be referred to Departments of Public Health after three attempts to contact them on the same day. This is to ensure timely referral to Departments of Public Health, who may have other ways of contacting cases.

For a small percentage of laboratory confirmed cases there is no valid phone number, and despite a number of processes no valid number is ever found. For these cases, where an address is recorded, the person receives a letter requesting them to contact a designated number. If no valid address is available, but the Public Health department is recorded on the laboratory file, then the case is sent to the relevant Public Health department.

The CMP makes three attempts to contact close contact, over two days. Voice mails are left at call 1 and 3 advising them of the purpose of the call. If the close contact is not contactable then the call is marked resolved. From next week, contacts will be referred to Departments of Public Health after three attempts to contact them on the same day.

Daily active Follow-up

All close contacts receive a daily text message advising them to continue to limit their movements, and asking them if they have symptoms. If they do (have symptoms) the message advises them to ring their GP or a designated contact tracing centre, which refers them for a test. The contacts who are referred for a test by their GP are identifiable as close contacts of a case within the system, and their results are included in the data above.

Contact Tracing Timeframes

Over the course of the past few weeks the end to end process has improved significantly. Not detected results, with a valid mobile number, get an SMS message within an hour of being uploaded onto the Covid Care Tracker. Detected cases, who answer their phone, will usually have their contact tracing completed during the working day (9am to 6pm). As some people are difficult to contact, some cases will run into the next day. Also, the last laboratory file of test results is uploaded around 7.30 in the evening, and contact tracing for these cases will not commence until the following morning.

Over the past 14 days the median time to complete contact tracing (all three calls) is one day.

CMP Activity

Over recent weeks the number of confirmed cases has fallen steadily, and requirement for contact tracing has also fallen. Week ending the 18th April 2020 there were a total of 18,371 calls made, and by week ending 29th of May there were a total of 2,741.

Exceptions

The data reported in this summary reflects what's recorded in the Covid Care Tracker. There is activity that has taken place in Departments of Public Health, Occupational Health departments, and Infection Prevention Control teams that may not be fully recorded on the CCT.

