



Mr. Paul Reid,
Chief Executive Officer & Chair HSE National Crisis Management Team (NCMT),
Health Services Executive,
Dr Steevens' Hospital,
Dublin 8,
D08 W2A8

4th September August 2020

Via email to: ceo.office@hse.ie

Dear Paul,

Arising from yesterday's meeting of the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHET), I wish to bring to your attention, as Chair of the HSE NCMT, the decisions of the NPHET which now require to be actioned by the HSE and Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC):

1. The NPHET, having regard for the available evidence and guidance in other jurisdictions, accepted the EAG advice from its meeting of 2nd of September in relation to the recommended periods of isolation for cases of COVID-19 in the community, acute settings and LTIC's, and for household contacts of children. The NPHET recommends that the HSE review its algorithms in line with this for approval by the NPHET next week;
2. The NPHET accepted the EAG recommendation that nasal swabs are an acceptable specimen type for use with children in the community and recommends that this be added to the testing algorithm for children.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and the wider team across the HSE for your ongoing support and work across the health and social care services as we move through the COVID-19 National Public Health Emergency. Officials from this Department have been and continue to be available to work with relevant HSE staff.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Ronan Glynn
A/Chief Medical Officer
Chair of the COVID-19 National Public Health Emergency Team

cc. Dr Colm Henry, Chief Clinical Officer, HSE
Mr Liam Woods, National Director, Acute Hospital Operations, HSE