

March

March record no.	Date	Time	Brief description and date of record	No. of pages
1	02/03/2020	14:41	E-mail NHI to DoH (14.41) Coronavirus / COVID 19 Update	5
2	02/03/2020	20:40	E-mails between (20.40) DoH and NHI	4
3	04/03/2020	21:29	E-mails (21.29) DoH and NHI re Coronavirus / COVID 19 Update	
4	05/03/2020	13:08	E-mails (13:08) DoH and NHI -Coronavirus / COVID 19 Update	7
5	05/03/2020	19:24	E-mail (19.24) NHI to DoH	1
6	05/03/2020	21:16	E-mails (21:16) internal and between DoH and NHI	2
7	06/03/2020	12:23	E-mail (12.23) NHI to DoH re visiting restrictions	1
8	06/03/2020	17:07	E-mail (17.07) DoH and NHI discharges and nursing home admissions	2
9	06/03/2020	17:21	E-mails (17.21) HSE to DoH and internal re visitor restrictions announcement	2
10	09/03/2020	00:00	NHI Letter to Secretary General-Workforce Planning	2
11	09/03/2020	10:42	E-mail (10.42) NHI to DoH requesting guidance on admissions	1
12	09/03/2020	16:45	E-mail (16.45) NHI to Minister with attachment -Workforce Planning	3
13	16/03/2020	16:46	E-mail (16.46) NHI to Minister and Deputies - see attachment record 12	2
14	09/03/2020	20:26	E-mails (20.26) re Discharges and Nursing Home admissions	3
15	10/03/2020	00:00	Letter from Secretary General to NHI	1
16	10/03/2020	10:19	E-mail (18.53) DoH and NHI	2
17	10/03/2020	19:53	E-mail (19.53) DoH and NHI assurance in relation to discharges	1
18	11/03/2020	15:07	E-mail (15.07) NHI member update to DoH re visitor policy	3
19	11/03/2020	15:14	E-mail (15.14) NHI member update to DoH re visitor policy	3
20	12/03/2020	09:17	E-mail (9.17) NHI to DoH NPHET and nursing home guidance, contingency planning	1
21	12/03/2020	12:30	E-mails (12.30) DoH and NHI-Guidance on transfers between care facilities	6
22	12/03/2020	12:57	E-mails (12.57) DoH and NHI - Essential workers/managing healthcare workers and impact of school closures	2
23	12/03/2020	15:11	E-mail (15.11) DoH to NHI -link updated measures	1
24	12/03/2020	15:39	E-mails (15.39) DoH/NHI/NTPF-Capacity Enquiry	3
25	12/03/2020	16:40	E-mail (16.40) NHI to to DoH COVID 19 Update	4
26	12/03/2020	16:56	E-mail (16.56) -Updated measures	1
27	12/03/2020	17:45	E-mail (17.45) NHI to DoH- update	4
28	13/03/2020	17:37	E-mails (17.37) NHI to DoH and attachment - guidance and support for residents in the nursing home	3
29	14/03/2020	18:12	E-mails (18.12) DoH and NHI	2
30	14/03/2020	20:45	E-mails (20.45) DoH/HSE/NHI includes advice and link	3
31	15/03/2020	14:45	E-mails NHI to HSE copied to DoH --updated criteria for a suspected case of coronavirus	4
32	16/03/2020	15:22	E-mail (15.22) NHI to DoH - Covid 19 and the nursing home sector	2
33	17/03/2020	15:37	E-mail (15.37) NHI to members -update re recruitment and representations	5
34	17/03/2020	15:38	E-mail (15.38) NHI to members -update re recruitment and representations	

35	17/03/2020	15:45	E-mail (15.45) to Minister and attachment re staffing and recruitment in the nursing home sector	4
36	17/03/2020	18:41	E-mail (18.41) NHI to members re preliminary clinical and infection control guidance	2
37	18/03/2020	21:59	E-mails (12.26) Internal and DoH to NHI - Essential workers/managing healthcare workers	6
38	18/03/2020	18:45	E-mail (18.45) NHI to DoH re nursing home sector	2
39	18/03/2020	19:23	E-mails (19.23) DoH to HSE Essential Workers/managing healthcare workers	2
40	12/03/2020	15:39	E-mails (15.39) DoH/NHI/NTPF-Capacity Enquiry	3
41	19/03/2020	11:50	E-mail (11.50) NHI to members re access to PPE and dedicated recruitment portal	3
42	19/03/2020	15:32	E-mail (15.32) NHI to Minister Harris with attachment request for meeting	3
43	19/03/2020	15:42	E-mail (15.42) NHI to Minister Daly copying letter addressed to Minister Harris	4
44	20/03/2020	08:50	E-mails (8.50) Office of Minister Daly to NHI	3
45	20/03/2020	08:17	E-mail(8.17) NHI to DoH re Nursing Home Sector	1
46	20/03/2020	09:23	E-mails (9.23) DoH and NHI re Nursing Home Sector	3
47	20/03/2020	14:35	E-mails (14.35) DoH and NHI re teleconference	2
48	20/03/2020	15:26	E-mails (15.26) DoH and NHI re teleconference	3
49	20/03/2020	17:58	E-mail (17.58) DoH to NHI	1
50	21/03/2020	11:07	E-mail (11.07) NHI to members re prioritisation of testing and palliative prescribing	2
51	21/03/2020	18:06	E-mail (18.06) NHI copied to DoH-re Protocol (Coroner's Office)	2
52	23/03/2020	15:50	E-mails (15.350) ack of letter to Minister Harris - see record 35	2
53	23/03/2020	19:55	E-mails (19.55) DoH and HSE re supply chains	2
54	24/03/2020	15:17	E-mails (15.17) NHI to members	3
55	24/03/2020	18:39	E-mails (18.39) NHI submission to Minister (cpoied to DoH)	4
56	24/03/2020	20:16	E-mails (20.16) Internal and NHI to Minister Harris -submission	4
57	25/03/2020	19:38	Email NHI to DoH re nursing home staffing and pandemic unemployment payment	4
58	25/03/2020	15:13	Email NHI to DoH re nursing home staffing and pandemic unemployment payment	3
59	25/03/2020	11:43	Email NHI to Min Daly with submission re maintaining service continuity	5
60	26/03/2020	16:40	Email NHI to DoH re engagement with Nursing Homes Sector Working Group	6
61	27/03/2020	20:22	Email NHI to DoH on supply of oxygen issue in nursing homes	9
62	27/03/2020	14:38	Email NHI to DEAPS cc DoH re HCA recruitment	5
63	27/03/2020	15:07	Email NHI to TDs re update from NHI re key challenges in nursing homes	5
64	28/03/2020	19:09	Email NHI to DoH re construction workers and NH projects	2
65	29/03/2020	21:19	Email NHI DoH re meeting with Minister and delegation	4
66	29/03/2020	13:43	Email NHI member bulletin re updates on HSE communication and NHI activities	4
67	30/03/2020	10:11	Email NHI to DoH re role profile for HCAs	6
68	30/03/2020	12:38	Email DoH to NHI re meeting with Minister	5
69	31/03/2020	11:57	Email NHI to DoH re NPHET enhanced measures	1

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Monday 2 March 2020 14:41
To: kathleen_maclellan@health.gov.ie
Subject: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

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Dear Member,

We remind our engagement with the Department of Health and HSE with regard to COVID-19 is daily. We will continue to provide Members with support and advice as appropriate. Members will be increasingly aware of the global spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). The following briefing has been prepared with the most up to date advice. You will appreciate that this is a continually moving issues and members should keep up to date with all public information. The primary sites for information are [the dedicated Coronavirus section on the HSE website](#) and for healthcare professionals via the [HPSC \(Health Protection Surveillance Centre\) website](#).

Please find provided within this email advice with regard to:

- [What is the Virus?](#)
- [How the virus is spread?](#)
- [Nursing Home Precautions](#)
- [Nursing Home Planning](#)
- [If a person becomes unwell and suspicion of COVID-19](#)
- [Further resources](#)
- [NHI Resources](#)
- [HSE Infographic - Prevention](#)
- [HSE Infographic - What to do if you are at risk](#)

What is the Virus?

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causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties.

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How the virus is spread?

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Because it's a new illness, it is not known how easily the virus spreads from person to person, or, if someone can spread the virus before they show symptoms.

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All visitors are asked to:

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- after toilet use
- before eating
- before and after preparing food
- if you are in contact with a sick person, especially those with respiratory symptoms
- if your hands are dirty
- if you have handled animals or animal waste
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough and sneeze
- dispose of used tissues into a bin and wash your hands with soap
- follow the travel advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs if traveling to a country or region with a spread of coronavirus

Providers should consider providing residents, visitors and service users with information in relation to hygiene and transmission. Together with what actions your nursing home may need to take in the event of an instruction to self-isolate or any other escalation of the disease.

Nursing Home Planning

- Providers should develop their own operational resilience planning. This will relate closely to plans which should already be in case in relation to any major incident. The distinction being that there may be factors limiting the ability of staff to travel to work if there is any instruction to self-isolate.
- We are liaising with the HSE with regard to specific recommendations with regard to planning for COVID-19 and emergency measures to be undertaken and expect to circulate guidance imminently.

We will continue to liaise with the HSE and will update you of further developments.

If a person becomes unwell and suspicion of COVID-19

- **Contacts of the unwell person:** If you become unwell or have been in direct contact with an affected individual, the advice from the HSE is not go to your GP or ED. Phone them first. If you do not have a GP, phone 112 or 999.

Further resources

Information is also available from:

- [European Centre For Disease Control](#)
- [World Health Organisation WHO](#)

Please remind all family members that they can best protect themselves from COVID-19 by regular and vigorous hand-washing and good respiratory hygiene. It is also worth noting that, as an EU member state, Ireland is following the advice of the ECDC (European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control).

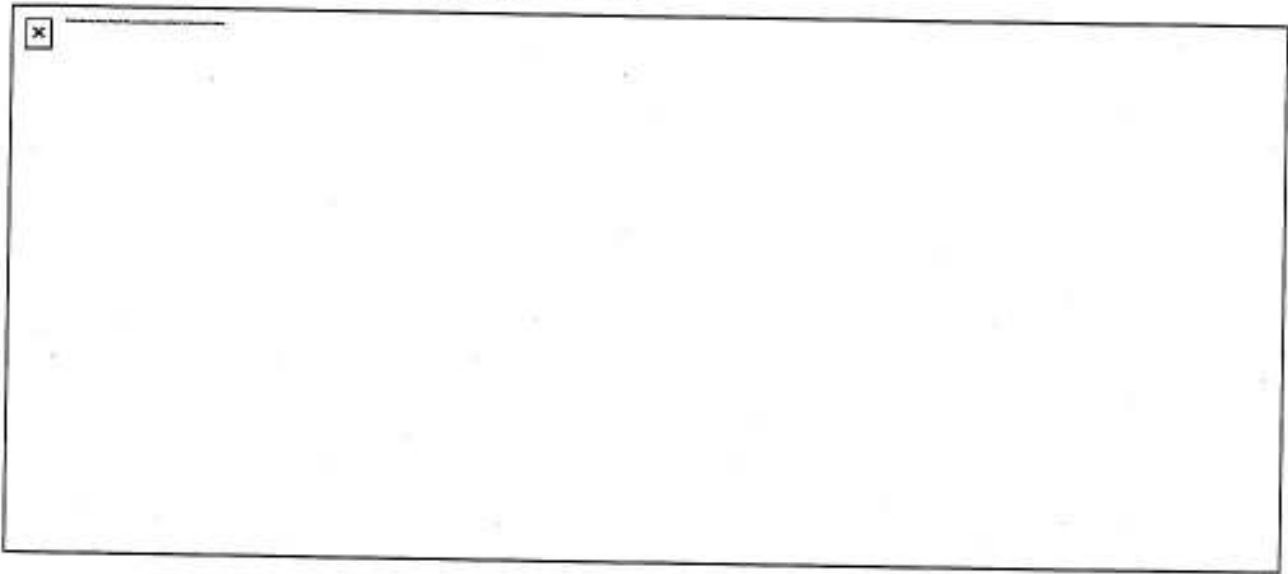
NHI Resources

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HSE Infographic - Prevention



HSE Infographic - What to do if you are at risk



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Our contact number is:

+353 (0)1 4699800

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Re: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update
Tadhg Daly

to:
Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
02/03/2020 20:40

Cc:
"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie", "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie", "Fiona Kenny"

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>

Kathleen,

Thank you for your email.

We continue to ensure members are appropriately informed as the situation develops.

Today's conf call with HSE was very positive and we will issue further guidance as it comes to hand.

We will keep in contact with you and colleagues as appropriate.

Kind regards,
Tadhg

On 2 Mar 2020, at 18:37, "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie> wrote:

Tadhg

Many thanks for keeping me updated on your communications with your members.

I understand that there was a very useful meeting this afternoon with the HSE - my team have updated me on the content of the meeting.

Again I would like to acknowledge your leadership.

Rgds

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "kathleen_maclellan@health.gov.ie" <kathleen_maclellan@health.gov.ie>
Date: 02/03/2020 15:01
Subject: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

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HSE Infographic - Prevention

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3

RE: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

Kathleen MacLellan to: Tadhg Daly
Cc: Fiona Kenny, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie",
"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie"

04/03/2020 21:29

From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"
<Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie"
<Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>

Tadhg
Many thanks for your email. Yes I can confirm that there a number of subgroups being established under NPHEHT. I will be chairing the Vulnerable People subgroup and I can confirm for you that your sector will be encompassed within the scope of the work. We are very aware as a Department of the continuity of care needs of a number of vulnerable groups and we include older people both in community and longterm care within these considerations.
Best wishes

Kathleen
Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

Tadhg Daly Kathleen, Thank you for your email and we are co... 04/03/2020 13:12:06

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>,
"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: 04/03/2020 13:12
Subject: RE: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

Kathleen,

Thank you for your email and we are committed to support our members and residents and provide leadership in this challenging and evolving environment. We remain in regular contact with HSE as appropriate and another conference call is scheduled for this afternoon.

I note that the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHEHT) has announced that issues relating to vulnerable people, healthcare workers, medicines supply and the preparedness of hospitals are to be examined by four separate sub-committees.

NHI members require express commitment that the requirements of the private and voluntary sector are included in the planning by NPEHT given the fact that our sector provides 24/7 care to in

excess of 24,000 residents in communities throughout Ireland. It is essential that the NPHE ensures that statutory agencies mobilised in planning take cognisance of the 24,000 residents in the Private and Voluntary Nursing Homes nationwide. It is essential that the residents and providers are included and form part of national plans.

Kind regards,
Tadhg

From: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Monday 2 March 2020 17:54
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie
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NHI Resources

NHI is available to provide assistance and support to people **affected** by any case that arises. You may need clinical, HR or advice with regard to communications. You can call **NHI** at 01 4699800 and [a listing of staff support is available here.](#)

HSE Infographic - Prevention

HSE Infographic - What to do if you are at risk

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RE: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

Kathleen MacLellan to: Tadhg Daly

05/03/2020 13:08

Cc: Fiona Kenny, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie", "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie"

From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE

To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhl.ie>

Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhl.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>

Tadhg

Many thanks for your assurances.

There is a Department briefing session tomorrow and I have asked that you are invited - I hope to see you there.

Rgds

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan

Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte

Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14

Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

Tadhg Daly

Thank you Kathleen, I acknowledge commitment...

05/03/2020 13:06:02

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhl.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhl.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>

Date: 05/03/2020 13:06

Subject: RE: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

Thank you Kathleen,

I acknowledge commitment to ensure that residents and staff in the private and voluntary nursing home sector are encompassed in all government planning.

As discussed we will continue to cascade advices and guidance to the sector as appropriate.

Best regards,

Tadhg

From: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

Sent: Wednesday 4 March 2020 21:30

To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhl.ie>

Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhl.ie>; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie

Subject: RE: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

Tadhg

Many thanks for your email. Yes I can confirm that there a number of subgroups being established under NPHEHT. I will be chairing the Vulnerable People subgroup and I can confirm for you that your sector will be encompassed within the scope of the work. We are very aware as a Department of the continuity of care needs of a number of vulnerable groups and we include older people both in community and longterm care within these considerations.

Best wishes

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan

Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte

Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14

Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14.

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From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Sarah Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, "Niall Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>

Date: 04/03/2020 13:12

Subject: RE: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

Kathleen,

Thank you for your email and we are committed to support our members and residents and provide leadership in this challenging and evolving environment. We remain in regular contact with HSE as appropriate and another conference call is scheduled for this afternoon.

I note that the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHEHT) has announced that issues relating to vulnerable people, healthcare workers, medicines supply and the preparedness of hospitals are to be examined by four separate sub-committees.

NHI members require express commitment that the requirements of the private and voluntary sector are included in the planning by NPHEHT given the fact that our sector provides 24/7 care to in excess of 24,000 residents in communities throughout Ireland. It is essential that the NPHEHT ensures that statutory agencies mobilised in planning take

cognisance of the 24,000 residents in the Private and Voluntary Nursing Homes nationwide. It is essential that the residents and providers are included and form part of national plans.

Kind regards,
Tadhg

From: [Kathleen MacLellan@health.gov.ie](mailto:Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie) <[Kathleen MacLellan@health.gov.ie](mailto:Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie)>
Sent: Monday 2 March 2020 17:54
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: [Sarah Cooney@health.gov.ie](mailto:Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie); [Niall Redmond@health.gov.ie](mailto:Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie)
Subject: Re: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

Tadhg

Many thanks for keeping me updated on your communications with your members.

I understand that there was a very useful meeting this afternoon with the HSE - my team have updated me on the content of the meeting.

Again I would like to acknowledge your leadership.

Rgds

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

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From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "kathleen_maclellan@health.gov.ie" <kathleen_maclellan@health.gov.ie>
Date: 02/03/2020 15:01
Subject: Coronavirus / COVID-19 - Update

[View this email in your browser](#)

Dear Member,

We remind our engagement with the Department of Health and HSE with regard to COVID-19 is daily. We will continue to provide Members with support and advice as appropriate. Members will be increasingly aware of the global spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). The following briefing has been prepared with the most up to date advice. You will appreciate that this is a continually moving issues and members should keep up to date with all public information. The primary sites for information are the dedicated Coronavirus section on the HSE website and for healthcare professionals via the HPSC (Health Protection Surveillance Centre) website.

Please find provided within this email advice with regard to:

- [What is the Virus?](#)
- [How the virus is spread?](#)
- [Nursing Home Precautions](#)
- [Nursing Home Planning](#)
- [If a person becomes unwell and suspicion of COVID-19](#)
- [Further resources](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [HSE Infographic - Prevention](#)
- [HSE Infographic - What to do if you are at risk](#)

What is the Virus?

A coronavirus is a type of virus. As a group, coronaviruses are common across the world. Typical symptoms of coronavirus include fever and a cough that may progress to a severe pneumonia causing shortness of breath and breathing difficulties.

Generally, coronavirus can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease. This clearly includes many individuals who live in nursing homes. The older population is therefore a particular community of concern. Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new strain of coronavirus. It is also called Coronavirus. Currently, there is no vaccine and no specific treatment for infection with the virus and the HSE advises that the flu vaccine does not protect against coronavirus.

Nursing Home residents, the majority of them being over 65, are an at-risk group, as are those who have a long-term medical condition – for example, heart disease, lung disease, diabetes or liver disease. As such members will be employing clinical judgement and every precaution to protect the health of residents, and indeed the health of our valued

home staff.

How the virus is spread?

It is believed that coronavirus is spread in sneeze or cough droplets. You could be at risk of contracting the virus if you:

- come into close contact with someone who has the virus and is coughing or sneezing
- touch surfaces that someone who has the virus has coughed or sneezed on

Because it's a new illness, it is not known how easily the virus spreads from person to person, or, if someone can spread the virus before they show symptoms.

Nursing Home Precautions

Nursing homes are strongly urged to ensure sterilising hand gel is at the entrance door and every visitor is informed of requirement to use it prior to moving around the nursing home.

All visitors are asked to:

- wash your hands properly and regularly with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub
 - after coughing or sneezing
 - after toilet use
 - before eating
 - before and after preparing food
 - if you are in contact with a sick person, especially those with respiratory symptoms
 - if your hands are dirty
 - if you have handled animals or animal waste
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough and sneeze
- dispose of used tissues into a bin and wash your hands with soap
- follow the travel advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs if traveling to a country or region with a spread of coronavirus

Providers should consider providing residents, visitors and service users with information in relation to hygiene and transmission. Together with what actions your nursing home may need to take in the event of an instruction to self-isolate or any other escalation of the disease.

Nursing Home Planning

- Providers should develop their own operational resilience planning. This will relate closely to plans which should already be in place in relation to any major incident. The distinction being that there may be factors limiting the ability of staff to travel to work if there is any instruction to self-isolate.
- We are liaising with the HSE with regard to specific recommendations with regard to planning for COVID-19 and emergency measures to be undertaken and expect to circulate guidance imminently.

We will continue to liaise with the HSE and will update you of further developments.

If a person becomes unwell and suspicion of COVID-19

- **Contacts of the unwell person:** If you become unwell or have been in direct contact with an affected individual, the advice from the HSE is not to go to your GP or ED. Phone them first. If you do not have a GP, phone 112 or 999.

Further resources

Information is also available from:

- European Centre For Disease Control
- World Health Organisation WHO

Please remind all family members that they can best protect themselves from COVID-19 by regular and vigorous hand-washing and good respiratory hygiene. It is also worth noting that, as an EU member state, Ireland is following the advice of the ECDC (European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control).

NHI Resources

NHI is available to provide assistance and support to people **affected** by any case that arises. You may need clinical, HR or advice with regard to communications. You can call **NHI** at 01 4699800 and a listing of staff support is available here.

HSE Infographic - Prevention

HSE Infographic - What to do if you are at risk

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5

Adam Fleming

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Thursday 5 March 2020 19:24
To: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
Subject: Covid

Kathleen,

Thank you for invitation to stakeholder briefing in the Dept tomorrow.

I can confirm that a number of our members participated in a conf call with Dr Siobhan Kennelly HSE this afternoon on the residential care sector.

I would appreciate a quick call later this pm or in the morning in advance of our nursing committee teleconference tomorrow at 10.30am.

My mobile is 087/2651934

Thank you
Tadhg

Fw: Covid19

Kathleen MacLellan to: Ronan Glynn, David Keating
Cc: NPH ETCV, Sarah Cooney, Niall Redmond

05/03/2020 21:16

From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE
To: Ronan Glynn/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, David Keating/SLAINTE@SLAINTE
Cc: NPH ETCV/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Sarah Cooney/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Niall Redmond/SLAINTE@SLAINTE

History: This message has been forwarded.

Ronan and David

Please see below from Nursing Homes Ireland. NHI have been very responsible and helpful with regard to communications to their members. They have raised two queries below. I advised Tadhg to await our response before issuing a communication to his membership.

I would be grateful for your advice.

Many thanks

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

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— Forwarded by Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE on 05/03/2020 21:11 —

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>, Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>
Date: 05/03/2020 20:38
Subject: Covid19

Dear Kathleen,

Thank you for your earlier call.

As you are aware we continue to engage and communicate with members given the unprecedented challenges. A number of our members participated in a conf call with Dr Siobhan Kennelly HSE this afternoon on the residential care sector and we will continue to engage and support the development of sector specific guidance. Please also convey our acknowledgment to you and the team in DoH and in particular to Dr Tony Holohan.

In respect of our earlier conversation I have 2 particular queries (among others) that require immediate consideration and response.

- The issue of visitor restrictions. I propose that **NHI** issues communication to nursing homes to restrict visitor access given the vulnerability of the resident population. I propose that we immediately issue guidance to our sector to restrict visitor as per previous national guidance – no children and 1 visitor per resident. This may require further restriction as matters develop to a full no visitor policy?
- The issue of staff who have returned from affected areas. See below media coverage of statement of HSE Specialist in Public Healthcare Medicine stating that healthcare professionals should not return to work for 14 days after travelling to such regions, depending on where they have been.

The HSE has clarified the rules for healthcare professionals who come back to Ireland from travelling in areas affected by the coronavirus. HSE Specialist in Public Healthcare Medicine Dr Sarah Doyle told a press conference in Dublin that healthcare professionals will now be asked not to return to work for 14 days after travelling to such regions, depending on where they have been. Dr Doyle said this was because health professionals interact with vulnerable patients and it was important to minimise risks.

I appreciate a timely response as we propose to communicate with members again tomorrow in advance of the weekend.

Thanks,
Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive
e. tdaly@nhi.ie
p. 01/4699800
m. 087/2651934

Nursing Homes Ireland

nhi

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Dublin 24, D24 K299
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in association with Homecare Medical

Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie
e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie
t. (01) 296 9394

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**Visitor Restrictions announced by Nursing Homes Ireland**

Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie, Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie,

Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie

06/03/2020 12:23 ✓

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>,

"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>,

"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>

COVID-19 / Coronavirus: Nursing Home Care**Visitor Restrictions announced by Nursing Homes Ireland**

6th March 2020: For the protection of nursing home residents, NHI has confirmed that visiting restrictions are now in place in nursing homes nationwide. No non-essential visiting, children or groups will be allowed.

All visitors are asked to contact prior to attending. Visitors should only seek to attend in urgent circumstances and the management reserve the right to impose full restrictions where necessary.

We urge prospective visitors to nursing homes to be cognisant and understanding of the measure that is required in the interest of resident and staff safety. Older people and people in nursing homes with pre-existing medical conditions are particularly vulnerable if they contract the virus. The virus presents an unprecedented situation for our nursing homes and the care provided within them. Nursing homes are imposing the visitor restrictions in the best interests of residents and staff. We thank people for their understanding and patience during this period of unprecedented challenges presented by Covid19.

Nursing Homes Ireland is monitoring the evolving situation on an ongoing basis and is in continuous contact with the Department of Health, National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHET), HSE and all relevant health authorities.

8

Fw: Discharges and nursing home admissions Kathleen MacLellan to: COVID_19
06/03/2020 17:07
Cc: NPHET Vulnerable People Subgroup, Sarah Cooney
From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE
To: COVID_19
Cc: NPHET Vulnerable People Subgroup/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Sarah
Cooney/SLAINTE@SLAINTE

Hello

Please see from Nursing Homes Ireland for attention:

1. Email below

Many thanks

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Ballie Átha Cilath, D02 XW14
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— Forwarded by Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE on 06/03/2020 16:59 —

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>
Date: 06/03/2020 13:37
Subject: Fwd: Discharges and nursing home admissions

Kathleen,

To keep you informed.

This is critical to ensure that we work together to maximise all available capacity.

Thanks
Tadhg

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Date: 6 March 2020 at 13:15:11 GMT
To: Sandra Tuohy <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>
Cc: Micheal Fitzgerald <MichaelM.Fitzgerald@hse.ie>, Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Subject: Discharges and nursing home admissions

Sandra,

As per our earlier conversation i note increasing queries from members re safe and appropriate discharges from acute hospitals to nursing homes

There is an immediate requirement on the HSE to outline the procedures for discharge In the current unprecedented challenges.

For example. Will HSE swab all discharges? What reassurance will be provided to nursing homes to protect residents and staff. What information will be provided?

Communication important on measures by HSE to reassure or this may get out of control.

We also need to look at admissions from the community and again reassurance.

Thanks
Tadhg

Fw: Fw:FW: Visitor Restrictions announced by Nursing Homes Ireland Kathleen MacLellan
 to: COVID_19 06/03/2020 17:21
 Cc: NPHET Vulnerable People Subgroup
 From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE
 To: COVID_19
 Cc: NPHET Vulnerable People Subgroup/SLAINTE@SLAINTE

Please see below

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
 Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
 Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Iochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
 Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

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— Forwarded by Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE on 06/03/2020 17:20 —

From: Sarah Cooney/SLAINTE
 To: Alan Smith/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Deirdre Watters/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Maeve O'Brien/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Ronan Glynn/SLAINTE@SLAINTE
 Date: 06/03/2020 12:30
 Subject: Fw:FW: Visitor Restrictions announced by Nursing Homes Ireland

Sent from IBM Notes Traveler

Tuohy, Sandra --- FW: Visitor Restrictions announced by Nursing Homes Ireland ---

From: "Tuohy, Sandra" <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>
 To: Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie
 Cc: "Yvonne O'Neill" <yvonne.oneill@hse.ie>, "Community Operations" <communityoperations@hse.ie>, "Community Primarycare" <community.primarycare@hse.ie>
 Date: Fri, 6 Mar 2020 12:25 PM
 Subject:FW: Visitor Restrictions announced by Nursing Homes Ireland

FYI

From: Tadhg Daly [mailto:tdaly@nhi.ie]
 Sent: Friday 6 March 2020 12:21
 To: Kennelly Siobhan <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>; Sandra Cavanagh <sandra.cavanagh@hse.ie>; Tuohy, Sandra <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>; NCAGL Older Persons <NCAGL.Olderpersons@hse.ie>
 Subject: Fwd: Visitor Restrictions announced by Nursing Homes Ireland

COVID-19 / Coronavirus: Nursing Home Care

Visitor Restrictions announced by Nursing Homes Ireland

6th March 2020: For the protection of nursing home residents, NHI has confirmed that visiting restrictions are now in place in nursing homes nationwide. No non-essential visiting, children or groups will be allowed.

All visitors are asked to contact prior to attending. Visitors should only seek to attend in urgent circumstances and the management reserve the right to impose full restrictions where necessary.

We urge prospective visitors to nursing homes to be cognisant and understanding of the measure that is required in the interest of resident and staff safety. Older people and people in nursing homes with pre-existing medical conditions are particularly vulnerable if they contact the virus. The virus presents an unprecedented situation for our nursing homes and the care provided within them. Nursing homes are imposing the visitor restrictions in the best interests of residents and staff. We thank people for their understanding and patience during this period of unprecedented challenges presented by Covid19.

Nursing Homes Ireland is monitoring the evolving situation on an ongoing basis and is in continuous contact with the Department of Health, National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE), HSE and all relevant health authorities.

=====

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Mr Jim Breslin,
Secretary General,
Department of Health,
Block 1,
Miesian Plaza,
50 – 58 Lower Baggot Street,
D02 XW14

9th March 2020

Dear Mr Breslin,

I refer to reports confirming that the HSE will be lifting embargoes on recruitment and hiring additional staff to address the severe challenges being presented by COVID-19.

Nursing Homes Ireland is well aware of the severe pressures being placed on our health and social care services arising from COVID-19, with private and voluntary nursing homes also under severe constraints and anticipating heightened challenges to arise.

We all share the common goal to address the unprecedented challenges presented by COVID-19 and we too face huge recruitment challenges, particularly within the healthcare assistant and nursing disciplines.

To this end, I wish to request;

- that you immediately lift the restrictions on the recruitment of healthcare assistants from outside the EU. The severe shortage of healthcare assistants already presenting within our sector will be exacerbated in the weeks and possible months ahead because of the workforce issues that will arise because of COVID-19. An immediate lifting of the restrictions is an imperative necessity.
- We request HSE to initially appoint candidates coming from outside Ireland from the recruitment panels currently in force as otherwise it will just denude another part of the health service at this challenging time. Such international candidates should ideally be from countries with a strong ability to manage the virus or less impacted by it.

The potential recruitment of staff from our sector will be to the severe detriment of people in nursing home care who present with severe underlying health conditions. It will threaten the capacity of nursing homes to meet their care needs during a period of a health emergency and will present as a move that will endanger older people. It will also prove counter-productive as

any reduction in the capacity of the nursing home sector will have an immediate impact on the timely and appropriate discharge of patients to nursing homes.

We remain committed to working with you and your colleagues in Government and the health services during this extremely challenging time for our health services and society.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tadhg Daly', written in a cursive style.

Tadhg Daly, CEO

Adam Fleming

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Monday 9 March 2020 10:42
To: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie
Subject: FW: Discharges and nursing home admissions

Kathleen,

As discussed briefly on Friday we need to be in a position to provide guidance to the nursing home sector on admissions both from acute and community.

I will give you a call to discuss.

Thanks,
Tadhg

-----Original Message-----

From: Tadhg Daly
Sent: Monday 9 March 2020 10:38
To: Sandra Tuohy <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>
Cc: Micheal Fitzgerald <MichaelM.Fitzgerald@hse.ie>; Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Subject: RE: Discharges and nursing home admissions

Good morning Sandra,

I refer to my email of Friday last.

Can you confirm latest advices and guidance from HSE/ DoH and NPHET in respect of admissions to nursing homes both from acute hospital settings and community.

Collectively we need to be in a position to provide clear communication and guidance to nursing homes.

Thanks,
Tadhg

-----Original Message-----

From: Tadhg Daly
Sent: Friday 6 March 2020 13:15
To: Sandra Tuohy <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>
Cc: Micheal Fitzgerald <MichaelM.Fitzgerald@hse.ie>; Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Subject: Discharges and nursing home admissions

Sandra,

As per our earlier conversation i note increasing queries from members re safe and appropriate discharges from acute hospitals to nursing homes

There is an immediate requirement on the HSE to outline the procedures for discharge In the current unprecedented challenges.

For example. Will HSE swab all discharges? What reassurance will be provided to nursing homes to protect residents and staff. What information will be provided?

Communication important on measures by HSE to reassure or this may get out of control.

We also need to look at admissions from the community and again reassurance.

Thanks
Tadhg

12



Correspondence from Tadhg Daly, Nursing Homes Ireland
Fiona Kenny to: Minister Harris (ministersoffice@health.gov.ie) 09/03/2020 16:45
From: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>
To: "Minister Harris (ministersoffice@health.gov.ie)" <ministersoffice@health.gov.ie>

1 Attachment



9 March 2020 LT Simon Harris re Workforce Planning Covid 19.pdf

Dear Minister Harris,

Please see attached letter from Tadhg Daly, CEO of Nursing Homes Ireland for your attention.

Kind regards,
Fiona

Fiona Kenny
EA to CEO
e. ea@nhi.ie
dd. (01) 469 9801

Nursing Homes Ireland



2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
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Nursing Homes Ireland
2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. (01) 469 9900 | e. info@nhi.ie | nhi.ie

Minister Simon Harris TD
Department of Health,
Block 1,
Miesian Plaza,
50 – 58 Lower Baggot Street,
D02 XW14

9th March 2020

Dear Minister Harris,

I refer to reports confirming that the HSE will be lifting embargoes on recruitment and hiring additional staff to address the severe challenges being presented by COVID-19.

Nursing Homes Ireland is well aware of the severe pressures being placed on our health and social care services arising from COVID-19, with private and voluntary nursing homes also under severe constraints and anticipating heightened challenges to arise.

We all share the common goal to address the unprecedented challenges presented by COVID-19 and we too face huge recruitment challenges, particularly within the healthcare assistant and nursing disciplines.

To this end, I wish to request;

- that you immediately lift the restrictions on the recruitment of healthcare assistants from outside the EU. The severe shortage of healthcare assistants already presenting within our sector will be exacerbated in the weeks and possible months ahead because of the workforce issues that will arise because of COVID-19. An immediate lifting of the restrictions is an imperative necessity.
- We request HSE to initially appoint candidates coming from outside Ireland from the recruitment panels currently in force as otherwise it will just denude another part of the health service at this challenging time. Such international candidates should ideally be from countries with a strong ability to manage the virus or less impacted by it.

The potential recruitment of staff from our sector will be to the severe detriment of people in nursing home care who present with severe underlying health conditions. It will threaten the capacity of nursing homes to meet their care needs during a period of a health emergency and will present as a move that will endanger older people. It will also prove counter-productive as

any reduction in the capacity of the nursing home sector will have an immediate impact on the timely and appropriate discharge of patients to nursing homes.

We remain committed to working with you and your colleagues in Government and the health services during this extremely challenging time for our health services and society.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tadhg Daly', written in a cursive style.

Tadhg Daly, CEO



Covid19 and the nursing home sector
 Fiona Kenny to: Minister Harris
 (ministersoffice@health.gov.ie), Stephen Donnelly, alan.kelly@oireachtas.ie, Louise
 O'Reilly, roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie 16/03/2020 16:46

From: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>

To: "Minister Harris (ministersoffice@health.gov.ie)"

<ministersoffice@health.gov.ie>, Stephen Donnelly

<Stephen.Donnelly@oireachtas.ie>, "alan.kelly@oireachtas.ie"

<alan.kelly@oireachtas.ie>, Louise O'Reilly <Louise.OReilly@Oireachtas.ie>,

"roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie" <roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie>

History:

This message has been forwarded.

1 Attachment



9 March 2020 LT Simon Harris re Workforce Planning Covid 19.pdf

Dear Minister Simon Harris TD, Stephen Donnelly TD, Alan Kelly TD, Louise O'Reilly TD, Roisin Shortall TD,

I write on behalf of NHI, our members provide care in a home from home to 25,000 residents nationwide. We acknowledge we have ongoing engagement with Department of Health and the HSE during this very challenging and constantly changing period, as essential. As you may be aware, nursing homes are, by definition, the facilities in which the most vulnerable citizens in the country are cared for.

In that regard we require commitment from the Department of Health, HSE and our government as we strive to protect nursing home residents and to ensure homes are positioned to meet the huge test that is being presented to our nation.

In such regard, I am raising these critical issues that we have received numerous representations from nursing homes regarding :

- **PPE Equipment:** There is considerable anxiety amongst private and voluntary homes regarding their capacity to access PPE Equipment. Your assistance with this will be vital to keep private and voluntary nursing homes open as the crisis deepens. Timely provision of such equipment is paramount for the protection of our frontline workers and in turn residents. Suppliers have confirmed to NHI and members that they are not in a position to supply as they state that they are supplying all such products exclusively to HSE at this time. We appreciate there is unprecedented requirements for such equipment but seek assurance of immediate access to supply for private and voluntary nursing homes and there will not be discrimination applied in providing such essential equipment;
- **Essential Workers:** It is important the private and voluntary nursing home sector is designated as an essential service to ensure it can function through the crisis. Can you confirm the up-to-date status and guidance regarding essential workers and the categorisation of such? We require the same protocols that apply as in the public system where they are provided with PPE, they may continue to work provided they observe infection prevention and control precautions and undergo 'active monitoring' twice daily for 14 days? We require confirmation they will get priority for testing and if we are asking them to work through, that if they do become ill, they will have a designation for hospital treatment as an essential worker? Furthermore, we ask that the State gives the same respect and rights to essential workers in the private and voluntary sector as will be given to their counterparts in the public system and similarly as per local authorities, regulators and national service providers. We would also ask in the event of challenges with deep cleaning, that the Government communicates with national contract cleaners to give priority to the sector along with other essential industries.
- **Workforce:** As per previous representations to An Taoiseach and the Minister for Health that are attached (and also to HSE DG Paul Reid and senior officials in the Department of Health and HSE),

we reiterate that the recruitment of staff from our sector by the State will be to the severe detriment of people in nursing home care who present with severe underlying health conditions. It is of huge concern that private and voluntary nursing homes have started to inform NHI that staff are being actively recruited on behalf of the HSE, severely pressurising the capability of nursing homes to meet resident care needs in an already severely pressurised situation. The continuation of such actions presents a potentially cataclysmic scenario for the health service.

- We propose that the Department of Social Protection establish a data base of workers available with key skills and that such staff are Vetted centrally by the National Vetting Bureau in advance so they could potentially work at short notice in nursing homes. Many of our citizens who have been laid off from the hospitality (for example chefs/ housekeeping/ cleaning) and other sectors could be key workers in the weeks and months ahead.
- In time security may become an important issue. We note the public commitments from Gardaí and Army and request that as appropriate they would allow some priority to our sector.

The private and voluntary nursing home sector has and will have a vital role to play as a central part of a functioning health service. As we all know, we are in an unprecedented situation. Nursing Homes Ireland remains committed to ongoing engagement with the government and all political parties to come together and help each other out and deal with this crisis head on.

Best regards,

Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
 Chief Executive
 e. tdaly@nhi.ie
 p. 01/4699800
 m. 087/2651934

Nursing Homes Ireland

nhi

2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
 Dublin 24, D24 K299.
 t. (01) 469 9800
 e. info@nhi.ie
nhi.ie

NHI Care Awards 2020

in association with Homecare Medical

Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie
 e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie
 t. (01) 296 9394

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Fw:RE: Discharges and nursing home admissions
 Kathleen MacLellan
 to:
 Niall Redmond
 09/03/2020 20:26
 Hide Details
 From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE
 To: Niall Redmond/SLAINTE@SLAINTE
 1 Attachment



Guidance on the transfer of hospitalised patients to LTCF in setting of Covid 19 SK0703_LOC.doc

Fyi

Sent from IBM Notes Traveler

> From: "Siobhan Kennelly" <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>
 > To: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, "Older People Operations" <olderpeople.operations@hse.ie>
 > Cc: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Maeve_O'Brien@health.gov.ie" <Maeve_O'Brien@health.gov.ie>, "Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) (olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie)" <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>
 > Date: Mon, 9 Mar 2020 13:12
 > Subject: RE: Discharges and nursing home admissions
 >
 >
 > Sarah Draft guidance is in production (see attached) which is NOT FOR FURTHER CIRCULATION. It needs further discussion with public health colleagues and they are managing that process so that this can be finalised. Its likely such guidance will inform some of the measures regarding transfers between other care settings also e.g. mental health, disabilities I am attaching same as its important that we understand the complexity of the scenarios to be considered and advice offered will differ for containment Vs mitigation phase Kind Regards Siobhán Dr Siobhán Kennelly National Clinical & Advisory Group Lead, Older Persons HSE Ncagl.olderpersons@hse.ie From: Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie
 > Sent: Monday 9 March 2020 12:17
 > To: Older People Operations ; Siobhan Kennelly
 > Cc: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Maeve_O'Brien@health.gov.ie
 > Subject: Fw: Discharges and nursing home admissions Sandra, Siobhan,
 >
 > Please see email from Nursing Home Ireland.
 >
 > We might touch base with you later in relation to the HSE response.
 >
 > Regards,
 > Sarah
 >
 > Sarah Cooney
 > Principal Officer, Older People's Projects Unit ---- Forwarded by Sarah Cooney/SLAINTE on 09/03/2020 12:13 ----
 >
 > From: "Tadhg Daly" <(tdaly@nhi.ie) [mailto:tdaly@nhi.ie]>

> To: " (Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie)
[mailto:Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie]" <(Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie)
[mailto:Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie]>, " (Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie)
[mailto:Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie]" <(Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie)
[mailto:Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie]>

> Date: 09/03/2020 10:59

> Subject: FW: Discharges and nursing home admissions

>
>-----

>
>
>
>
>
> Kathleen,

>
> As discussed briefly on Friday we need to be in a position to provide guidance to the
nursing home sector on admissions both from acute and community.

>
> I will give you a call to discuss.

>
> Thanks,
> Tadhg

>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----

> From: Tadhg Daly
> Sent: Monday 9 March 2020 10:38
> To: Sandra Tuohy <(sandra.tuohy@hse.ie) [mailto:sandra.tuohy@hse.ie]>
> Cc: Micheal Fitzgerald <(MichaelM.Fitzgerald@hse.ie)
[mailto:MichaelM.Fitzgerald@hse.ie]>; Fiona Kenny <(ea@nhi.ie) [mailto:ea@nhi.ie]>
> Subject: RE: Discharges and nursing home admissions

>
> Good morning Sandra,

>
> I refer to my email of Friday last.
> Can you confirm latest advices and guidance from HSE/ DoH and NPHET in respect of
admissions to nursing homes both from acute hospital settings and community.

>
> Collectively we need to be in a position to provide clear communication and guidance to
nursing homes.

>
> Thanks,
> Tadhg

>
>
>
> -----Original Message-----

> From: Tadhg Daly
> Sent: Friday 6 March 2020 13:15
> To: Sandra Tuohy <(sandra.tuohy@hse.ie) [mailto:sandra.tuohy@hse.ie]>
> Cc: Micheal Fitzgerald <(MichaelM.Fitzgerald@hse.ie)
[mailto:MichaelM.Fitzgerald@hse.ie]>; Fiona Kenny <(ea@nhi.ie) [mailto:ea@nhi.ie]>
> Subject: Discharges and nursing home admissions

>
> Sandra,
>

- > As per our earlier conversation i note increasing queries from members re safe and appropriate discharges from acute hospitals to nursing homes
- >
- > There is an immediate requirement on the HSE to outline the procedures for discharge In the current unprecedented challenges.
- >
- > For example. Will HSE swab all discharges? What reassurance will be provided to nursing homes to protect residents and staff. What information will be provided?
- >
- > Communication important on measures by HSE to reassure or this may get out of control.

- >
- > We also need to look at admissions from the community and again reassurance.
- >
- > Thanks
- > Tadhg
- > *****
- > Email Disclaimer and; Legal Notice: (<http://health.gov.ie/email-disclaimer/>)
[\[http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=17268&d=1Lfm3sZ_6WYkJ-TIG_DP_QVXAW0KRYnw02AHXbqKkQ&s=343&u=http%3a%2f%2fhealth%2egov%2eie%2femail-disclaimer%2f\]](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=17268&d=1Lfm3sZ_6WYkJ-TIG_DP_QVXAW0KRYnw02AHXbqKkQ&s=343&u=http%3a%2f%2fhealth%2egov%2eie%2femail-disclaimer%2f)
- > *****

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health
Secretary General



15

Mr Tadhg Daly
CEO
Nursing Homes Ireland
2051 castle Drive
Citywest
Dublin 24

10 March 2020

Our ref: QC2020/22868

Dear Mr Daly,

I refer to your letter of 9 March.

As part of preparedness planning for COVID-19 we are examining a range of workforce issues and I have asked relevant officials to look at the issues raised in your letter in that context.

Thank you for your ongoing collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jim Breslin'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name.

Jim Breslin
Secretary General

Fw: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers
Kathleen MacLellan to: Patricia Lee, Niall Redmond

16/04/2020 10:19

From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE
To: Patricia Lee/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Niall Redmond/SLAINTE@SLAINTE

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

— Forwarded by Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE on 16/04/2020 10:19 —

From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@hhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@hhi.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>
Date: 10/03/2020 18:52
Subject: Re: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Tadhg

We will follow up with our public health and workforce planning colleagues and we might have a chat tomorrow?

Rgds

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

Tadhg Daly

Kathleen, I understand that as part of NPHE re...

10/03/2020 18:08:57

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@hhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@hhi.ie>
Date: 10/03/2020 18:08
Subject: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Kathleen,

I understand that as part of NPHET re COVID-19 that an expert advisory group has been established on managing healthcare workers.

I refer to the statement of the chair of the advisory group Dr Cillian de Gascun as reported in this week's Irish Times stated that if staff who have not developed symptoms and are deemed essential workers, may continue to work provided they observe infection prevention and control precautions and undergo active monitoring twice daily for 14 days after contact with a confirmed case.

Can you confirm the advices from the expert advisory group on managing healthcare workers and also advise on the specific requirements of "active monitoring" so that we are in a position to advise at the earliest opportunity.

Thanks
Tadhg



RE: Re:FW: Assurance in relation to discharges

Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie

10/03/2020 19:53

Cc:

"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie", Fiona Kenny, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>

Thank you Kathleen,

I can confirm we received from HSE this evening and that NHI circulated shortly after 6pm this evening to all nursing homes – members and non

Thanks,

Tadhg

From: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

Sent: Tuesday 10 March 2020 19:46

To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

Cc: Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie; Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie

Subject: Re:FW: Assurance in relation to discharges

Tadhg

I understand guidance is being issued this evening and that HIQA are disseminating it through their communication channels.

Rgds

Kathleen

Sent from IBM Notes Traveler

> From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

> To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

> Cc: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>

> Date: Tue, 10 Mar 2020 16:24

> Subject: FW: Assurance in relation to discharges

>

>

> Kathleen/ Sarah, I refer to our ongoing conversation and my previous emails. Below further email to HSE re discharges and admissions. Communication and reassurance to the nursing home sector is a priority to ensure timely and appropriate discharges. Best regards, Tadhg

>

> From: Tadhg Daly

> Sent: Tuesday 10 March 2020 16:17

> To: Sandra Tuohy

> Cc: Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) ; Fiona Kenny

> Subject: RE: Assurance in relation to Cork University Hospital discharges Sandra/

Michael, I refer to our ongoing conversations and teleconference on Saturday last re discharges from acute hospitals and admissions to nursing homes. As discussed we are receiving increasing numbers of calls from members on this matter and there is an immediate requirement on the HSE to outline the necessary robust procedures for discharge in the current unprecedented challenges of COVID-19. I note assurances from CUH confirming "that every patient ready for discharge has been risk assessed and deemed suitable for discharge from an infection control point of view. Any patient who has been a contact of a confirmed or suspect case of COVID-19 will not be discharged." Nursing homes admitting residents require confirmation that all discharges from the acute hospitals and community have undergone a full risk assessment, full medical assessment and tested for COVID-19. Reassurances are required by nursing homes to protect residents and staff. We require immediate communication to the nursing home sector to ensure safe and appropriate discharges to ensure that the sector can continue to support the acute hospitals. Best regards, Tadhg

>
 > From: Ger Reaney (Chief Officer) <Ger.Reaney@hse.ie> [<mailto:Ger.Reaney@hse.ie>]
 > Sent: Monday 9 March 2020 16:05
 > To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie> [<mailto:tdaly@nhi.ie>]
 > Cc: Ger Reaney (Chief Officer) <Ger.Reaney@hse.ie> [<mailto:Ger.Reaney@hse.ie>]; sandra.tuohy@hse.ie [<mailto:sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>]; Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie> [<mailto:olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>]

> Subject: FW: Assurance in relation to Cork University Hospital discharges Tadhg, See attached updated correspondence issued this evening, to private facilities in the Cork area.

> Kind regards, Fiona on behalf of Ger Reaney Chief Officer Office of the Chief Officer | Cork Kerry Community Healthcare | Health Service Executive | Model Business Park | Model Farm Road | Cork | Eircode: T12 HT02 Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh | Cúram Sláinte Pobail - Corcaigh & Ciarraí | Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte | Páirc Gnó Model | Bóthar na Modh Feirme | Corcaigh Tel. 021-4928540 | E: Ger.Reaney@hse.ie [<mailto:Ger.Reaney@hse.ie>]

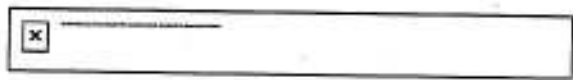
>
 > From: Ger Reaney (Chief Officer)
 > Sent: Friday 6 March 2020 18:28
 > To: tdaly@nhi.ie [<mailto:tdaly@nhi.ie>]
 > Cc: Ger Reaney (Chief Officer); sandra.tuohy@hse.ie [<mailto:sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>]; Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy)
 > Subject: Assurance in relation to Cork University Hospital discharges Tadhg, See below correspondence issued this evening, to private facilities in the Cork area, who are declining to make beds available for safe discharges from CUH. Regards, Ger Ger Reaney Office of the Chief Officer | Cork Kerry Community Healthcare | Health Service Executive | Model Business Park | Model Farm Road | Cork | Eircode: T12 HT02 Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh | Cúram Sláinte Pobail - Corcaigh & Ciarraí | Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte | Páirc Gnó Model | Bóthar na Modh Feirme | Corcaigh T: 021 4928540 | E: ger.reaney@hse.ie [<mailto:ger.reaney@hse.ie>]

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Adam Fleming

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 11 March 2020 15:07
To: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie;
 Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie; Deirdre_Watters@health.gov.ie
Cc: Fiona Kenny
Subject: Covid-19 / Coronavirus update re visitor policy

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Dear Member,

NHI reiterates the guidance it provided last Friday with regard to Covid-19 / Coronavirus. The virus presents an unprecedented situation for nursing homes and the protection of residents is of paramount concern for all nursing homes.

The guidance provided last Friday, which was disseminated to the public, [can be read again here](#). It informed for the protection of residents, nursing homes nationwide would be implementing visitor restrictions. We stated non-essential visits and visits by children and groups would not be permitted. It is a matter for each individual nursing home to have a procedure in place that it deems appropriate and in the best interests of its residents and staff.

This guidance was informed by our National Nursing Committee and we thank them for their continuous support during this period.

We are urging all nursing homes to consider how non-contact engagement can be facilitated. Facetime provides technology that facilitates communication by screen and Skype is also a key technology in such regard. WhatsApp also provides means for face-to-face calls. Be cognisant of the importance of contact between the resident and their family / friends and support such.

NHI has undertaken extensive engagement with media to inform the procedures being implemented by private and voluntary nursing homes are in the best interests of residents.

We take this opportunity to remind of the legislation as per the Care and Welfare Regulations. Regulation 11.2 (a) (i) stipulates:

Visits

11. (1) The registered provider shall make arrangements for a resident to receive visitors.

(2) The person in charge shall ensure that—

(a) in so far as is reasonably practicable, visits to a resident are not restricted, unless—

(i) such a visit would, in the opinion of the person in charge, pose a risk to the resident concerned or to another resident, or

(ii) the resident concerned has requested the restriction of visits.

We appreciate the present situation presents unprecedented challenges for nursing homes. Within NHI, we have received numerous calls from Members and the public and we are providing guidance, advice and information, reiterating the actions being undertaken are with the best interest of residents in mind. International news reports inform of the gravity of the situation that can present if a Coronavirus case presents within a nursing home.

As ever, we ask Members to be cognisant of the importance of compassion and understanding in engaging with families and friends of residents. Restricted / non-access presents upset for people and it is important to inform the action undertaken by the nursing home is with the best interest of residents being the primary consideration.

NHI will be reaching out to Members to ask the measures being undertaken within

nursing homes to support the wellbeing of residents during this difficult period and we will share detail regarding measures being undertaken with all.

Yours,
Tadhg Daly,
CEO



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19



Covid-19 / Coronavirus update re visitor policy

Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie, Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie, Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie, Deirdre_Watters@health.gov.ie

11/03/2020 15:14

Cc:

Fiona Kenny

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>,

"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie"

<Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, "Deirdre_Watters@health.gov.ie" <Deirdre_Watters@health.gov.ie>

Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>

Security:

To ensure privacy, images from remote sites were prevented from downloading. [Show Images](#)

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Dear Member,

NHI reiterates the guidance it provided last Friday with regard to Covid-19 / Coronavirus. The virus presents an unprecedented situation for nursing homes and the protection of residents is of paramount concern for all nursing homes.

The guidance provided last Friday, which was disseminated to the public, **can be read again here**. It informed for the protection of residents, nursing homes nationwide would be implementing visitor restrictions. We stated non-essential visits and visits by children and groups would not be permitted. It is a matter for each individual nursing home to have a procedure in place that it deems appropriate and in the best interests of its residents and staff.

This guidance was informed by our National Nursing Committee and we thank them for their continuous support during this period.

We are urging all nursing homes to consider how non-contact engagement can

be facilitated. Facetime provides technology that facilitates communication by screen and Skype is also a key technology in such regard. WhatsApp also provides means for face-to-face calls. Be cognisant of the importance of contact between the resident and their family / friends and support such.

NHI has undertaken extensive engagement with media to inform the procedures being implemented by private and voluntary nursing homes are in the best interests of residents.

We take this opportunity to remind of the legislation as per the Care and Welfare Regulations. Regulation 11.2 (a) (i) stipulates:

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11. (1) The registered provider shall make arrangements for a resident to receive visitors.

(2) The person in charge shall ensure that—

(a) in so far as is reasonably practicable, visits to a resident are not restricted, unless—

(i) such a visit would, in the opinion of the person in charge, pose a risk to the resident concerned or to another resident, or

(ii) the resident concerned has requested the restriction of visits.

We appreciate the present situation presents unprecedented challenges for nursing homes. Within NHI, we have received numerous calls from Members and the public and we are providing guidance, advice and information, reiterating the actions being undertaken are with the best interest of residents in mind. International news reports inform of the gravity of the situation that can present if a Coronavirus case presents within a nursing home.

As ever, we ask Members to be cognisant of the importance of compassion and understanding in engaging with families and friends of residents. Restricted / non-access presents upset for people and it is important to inform the action undertaken by the nursing home is with the best interest of residents being the primary consideration.

NHI will be reaching out to Members to ask the measures being undertaken within nursing homes to support the wellbeing of residents during this difficult period and we will share detail regarding measures being undertaken with all.

Yours,
Tadhg Daly,
CEO

FacebookTwitterLinkedInWebsite

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20



NPHET and nursing home guidance, contingency planning
Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie, Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie,
Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie

12/03/2020 09:17

Cc:

Fiona Kenny, Michael McGlynn

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>,
"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>,
"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>

"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>, Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>

Good morning Kathleen,

The nursing home sector requires sector specific advice and guidance on contingency planning in the event that a resident and/or staff member is suspected or confirmed to have the COVID-19 virus.

NHI and members require a clear public health led protocol to refer to in the event of the virus entering a nursing home. As per our discussions such protocols will be led by public health advices and the NPHET vulnerable persons subcommittee.

As you are aware to date our advices and guidance has been focussed on protection, prevention and risk assessment.

Can you confirm such advices are being prepared and will be circulated as a priority.

Thanks
Tadhg

RE: Guidance on transfers between care facilities

Kathleen MacLellan to: Tadhg Daly

12/03/2020 12:30

"Fiona Kenny", "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie",
Cc: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie", NPHEP Vulnerable People Subgroup
Mailing List

From: Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE
To: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"
<Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie"
<Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, NPHEP Vulnerable People Subgroup Mailing List

Tadhg

Many thanks and once again appreciate your continued working with us.
Rgds

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

"Tadhg Daly" Kathleen, Please see below NHI response to the... 12/03/2020 11:38:49

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>,
"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>,
"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: 12/03/2020 11:38
Subject: RE: Guidance on transfers between care facilities

Kathleen,

Please see below [redacted] response to the HSE Interim Guidance on Transfer between Care Facilities,
dated 10th March. As you are aware [redacted] circulated immediately on receipt on Tuesday 10th.

Thanks
Tadhg

From: Tadhg Daly
Sent: Thursday 12 March 2020 11:17
To: Tuohy, Sandra <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>; Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>
Cc: Siobhan Kennelly <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>; Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald -
A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>
Subject: RE: Guidance on transfers between care facilities

Sandra and all,

■ has received a number of representations and queries from member nursing homes following the issuance of the HSE Interim Guidance on Transfer between Care Facilities, dated 10th March. As you are aware ■ circulated immediately on receipt on Tuesday 10th.

The sector appreciates that the WHO has now declared COVID 19 as a pandemic and therefore there is a need for a national collaborative approach, however nursing homes are, by definition, the facilities in which the most vulnerable citizens in the country are accommodated. The published epidemiology statistics; at risk co-morbidities and in particular the mortality rates for the over 70 and 80 year olds is of grave concern to our sector given the demographic and disease profile of our residents.

We are in agreement that transfers from hospitals with no evidence of spread of COVID-19 (category A hospitals) should operate as normal. However, recent advices to the public include measures such as social distancing, avoiding social interactions and avoiding indoor, crowded spaces to help limit the risk of transmission. Furthermore all the evidence to date highlights that the worst outcomes/ prognosis for COVID 19 is in those categories of persons who are most likely to live in nursing homes. It is in this context, that we believe it is incumbent on us to do everything possible to reduce the risk of introducing the virus or potential for an outbreak in our nursing homes.

We therefore propose that it would be prudent to only permit transfer of patients from hospitals where there is evidence of spread of COVID-19 (category B hospitals) to a nursing home in circumstances where that patient has been confirmed negative for the virus.

We request and propose that the guidance is to only accept residents after the 14 day recommended isolation period and following a subsequent negative test. We propose that policy will be to insist on a negative Covid-19 test for all category B hospitals which as of 11 March 2020 include CUH, UHW, UHL and Bon Secours Cork (updated list required as below).

This issue is clearly very fluid and we are trying to balance the high risk nature of potential exposure to our residents with the need to support the national response and continue to form a functioning part of our health service.

In order to reassure nursing homes and aid ongoing decision-making I would be grateful if you could please clarify the following:

1. The guidance identifies the need for 'active monitoring' of cases for evidence of new respiratory symptoms. Is there a protocol/parameters for the active monitoring of residents coming from at risk hospitals? How is this to be performed and by whom given that GPs are currently assessing at-risk community patients over the phone? N.B. The HSE will be acutely aware of the existing pressures on GPs to provide a general service to nursing home residents outside of the COVID 19 situation. What does active monitoring consist of? E.g. will this require chest examination? Will public health perform this examination if GPs are unable?
2. The guidance also recommends re-testing if respiratory tract infection symptoms develop during the specified isolation period. Are there specific algorithms for this? Again who is to perform the testing or how is it accessed?
3. It indicates that all potential transfers will have first received a sample not-detected report.

Whilst the guidance refers to the need for isolation there is no mention whatsoever of the need for barrier nursing or the use of PPE during this time. Given that there is the potential to develop the virus during the specified time then it is assumed that barrier nursing and PPE will be required. Is there any specific guidance for barrier nursing such as allocating specific staff only? What precautions should be used – we assume it is standard, contact and droplet precautions? What specific PPE should be used? Will this PPE be provided by the discharging hospital given that the recommended PPE is not routinely available in nursing homes and there is a current shortage of supply? Are there any particular cleaning schedules or decontamination recommendations to be in place during and after the isolation period?

4. Is there a publicly available national register of hospitals (Category A and B) with current confirmed cases that we can refer to when making decisions on taking admissions?

It is also worth noting that nursing homes provide care for a large proportion of residents with cognitive impairment and/or dementia, therefore the ability to fully isolate these residents without one-to-one staff supervision at all times, may prove impossible. Furthermore, concerns have been raised about the risk to healthcare staff and the potential for our staff to contract the virus due to the lack of appropriate PPE or the need for sustained contact with those in isolation. There is a risk of our staffing levels being severely depleted due to either directly contracting the virus or the need to self-isolate following a patient who has been transferred subsequently testing positive during the specified isolation period. Given the independent nature of our business entities there are no contingency arrangements which could address widespread staffing depletion such as this. Does the emergency planning for the HSE factor in the potential need to assist private and voluntary healthcare providers in the delivery of their services should such a scenario present itself?

Lastly, there is a lot of very good and helpful information on the HPSC website however there is no specific practical guidance for nursing homes that [redacted] can locate. Indeed there appears to be a dearth of such literature internationally and it is difficult to get specific information in respect of the incidence of COVID 19 cases in nursing homes in affected countries to date. The Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention have useful general questions on protection guidance which suggests measures such as serving meals in staggered batches to avoid large numbers congregating together, whereas the only international guidance specific to nursing homes appears to be from America here: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-14-nh-revised.pdf>. [redacted] would therefore recommend that a similar document be prepared for Irish nursing homes to allay fears and enable Providers to take a pro-active and informed approach.

Best regards,
Tadhg

From: Tuohy, Sandra <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>

Sent: Tuesday 10 March 2020 17:09

To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>; Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>

Cc: Siobhan Kennelly <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>; Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>

Subject: Guidance on transfers between care facilities

Dear Tadhg/Michael,

Please see attached the Interim Guidance on Transfer between Care Facilities which is HSE approved.

As you are aware, the HSE remain within the containment phase of the Covid-19 therefore guidance and policy is evolving and is subject to change. Please check with the HPSC website which is regularly updated with the latest advice and guidance on the management of Covid-19.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss. I would really value if the attached could be shared with **Q&A** members.

Warm wishes

Sandra Tuohy

=====

IMPORTANT

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This e-mail and any attachment contains information which is private and confidential a: read, copy or use the e-mail or any attachment. If you have received this e-mail in err: [attachment "Guidance on the transfer of hospitalised patients from an acute hospital to a residential care facility in the context of the global COVID-19 epidemic.pdf" deleted by Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE]



Guidance on the transfer of hospitalised patients from an acute hospital to a residential care facility in the context of the global COVID-19 epidemic

Introduction

The emergence and spread of COVID-19 disease has raised concerns regarding risks related to transfer for patients between acute hospital services and residential care facilities (RCF). There is a concern that patient movement may result in the introduction of the disease from an acute hospital to a RCF. Experience is limited at present and advice issued regarding the safe transfer of patients from one healthcare facility to another can be expected to change as the picture evolves. Therefore this advice is likely to change as the conditions determined by the outbreak change. It is important therefore that all staff in RCFs pay close attention to guidance issued in this area through www.hpsc.ie

The following key points are relevant to the guidance

1. The virus is shed from the respiratory tract of infected patients and infection is acquired when the virus reaches the eyes, nose or mouth of another person.
2. Virus shedding is probably greatest around the time the patient has symptoms. There is evidence that some patients may shed the virus before they develop symptoms.
3. Patients who have acquired infection generally develop symptoms within a week but symptoms may not manifest for up to 14 days
4. Infection has been associated with severe disease in a high proportion of older people with pre-existing health problems.
5. Appropriate placement of patients/residents and good infection prevention and control practice can be expected to reduce the risk of spread in any setting.

Categories of Hospital Transferring to a RCF with no evidence of spread of COVID-19

A. Hospitals with no evidence of spread of COVID-19 within the hospital (note this includes hospitals where cases of COVID-19 have been cared for but where there is no evidence of spread)

For hospitals with no evidence of spread of COVID-19 within the hospital patient transfers to RCF should operate as normal at this time except that patients with respiratory tract infection that conforms to the current national criteria for testing for COVID-19 should be tested and have a sample reported as virus not-detected before transfer to a RCF.

Guidance on the transfer of hospitalised patients from an acute hospital to a residential care facility

10 March 2020

10/03/2020 14:00:00
10/03/2020 14:00:00
10/03/2020 14:00:00

B. Hospitals with evidence of spread of COVID-19 within the hospital

1. Asymptomatic patients not identified as Contacts of COVID-19

Transfers to RCF should operate as normal at this time except that patients with hospital acquired respiratory tract infection that conforms to the current national criteria for testing for COVID-19 should be tested and have a sample reported as not-detected before transfer to at RCF.

2. Asymptomatic patients identified as Contacts of COVID-19

Transfers to RCF should proceed provided that the RCF has a facility to provide the resident with an en-suite single room and the resident is able to accept and adhere to staying in their room for the period required to bring them to 14 days since they had Contact. (For example a patient transferred on day 7 post Contact would require an additional 7 days staying in their room after transfer to the RCF.

Contact patients transferred would require active monitoring to complete the period of 14 days. If the resident develops any symptoms of respiratory tract infection during the specified period they will require testing.

3. Symptomatic patients identified as Contacts of COVID-19

Transfers to RCF should proceed provided that the resident has had a sample reported as not-detected and RCF has a facility to provide the resident with an en-suite single room and the resident is able to accept and adhere to staying in their room for the period required to bring them to 14 days since they had Contact. (For example a patient transferred on day 7 post Contact would require an additional 7 days staying in their room after transfer to the RCF.

Contact patients transferred would require active monitoring to complete the period of 14 days. If the resident develops any new symptoms of respiratory tract infection during the specified period they will require re-testing.

4. Patients with COVID-19 disease

Transfers to RCF should normally be delayed until resident has had two consecutive respiratory samples reported as virus not detected.

Categories of RCF Transferring to an Acute Hospital

A. RCF with no evidence of spread of COVID-19 (note this includes RCF where cases of COVID-19 have been cared for but where there is no evidence of spread)

For RCF with no evidence of spread of COVID-19 within the hospital patient transfers to hospital should operate as normal at this time except that patients with respiratory tract infection should be discussed with the receiving hospital in advance of transfer.

Guidance on the transfer of hospitalised patients from an acute hospital to a residential care facility

B. RCF with evidence of spread of COVID-19 within the RCF

1. Asymptomatic patients not identified as Contacts of COVID-19

Transfers to hospital should operate as normal at this time except that patients with features of a new respiratory tract infection should be identified to the hospital as high risk patients

2. Asymptomatic patients identified as Contacts of COVID-19

Transfers to hospital should proceed if essential for patient care however patients should be identified to the hospital as high risk patients

Contact patients transferred would require active monitoring to complete the period of 14 days. If the resident develops any symptoms of respiratory tract infection during the specified period they will require testing.

3. Symptomatic patients identified as Contacts of COVID-19

Transfers to hospital should proceed if essential for patient care however patients should be identified to the hospital as high risk patients

4. Patients with COVID-19 disease

Transfers to hospital should proceed if essential for patient care however patients should be identified to the hospital as high risk patients

Note. In this context "asymptomatic" means having no symptoms or signs of new respiratory tract infection.

Adam Fleming

22

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Thursday 12 March 2020 12:57
To: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
Cc: Fiona Kenny; Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Kathleen,

Given the announcement re closure of schools and colleges this matter requires urgent attention to ensure that nursing homes can maintain staffing levels.

I am in the Department of Health at 2pm this afternoon if you are available?

Thanks

Tadhg

Sent: Tuesday 10 March 2020 18:53
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Tadhg
We will follow up with our public health and workforce planning colleagues and we might have a chat tomorrow?
Rgds

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>,
"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: 10/03/2020 18:08
Subject: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Kathleen,

I understand that as part of NPHE re COVID-19 that an expert advisory group has been established on managing healthcare workers.

I refer to the statement of the chair of the advisory group Dr Cillian de Gascun as reported in this week's Irish Times stated that if staff who have not developed symptoms and are deemed essential workers, may continue to work provided they observe infection prevention and control precautions and undergo active monitoring twice daily for 14 days after contact with a confirmed case.

Can you confirm the advices from the expert advisory group on managing healthcare workers and also advise on the specific requirements of "active monitoring" so that we are in a position to advise at the earliest opportunity.

Thanks
Tadhg

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23

Gov.ie - Updated Measures in Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Niall Redmond

to:

Tadhg Daly

12/03/2020 15:11

Hide Details

From: Niall Redmond/SLAINTE

To: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ea1c30-updated-measures-in-response-to-covid-19-coronavirus/#visiting-hospitals-nursing-homes-and-long-stay-settings>

Sent from IBM Verse



Fwd: NTPF Capacity Enquiry
Tadhg Daly

to:
Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie
12/03/2020 15:39

Cc:
"Fiona Kenny"
Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <fk@nhi.ie>

2 Attachments



NH Capacity 11.03.2020.xlsx ATT00001.htm

Niall
Below as discussed just now
Keep me informed
Thanks
Tadhg

From: Section40 <Section40@nmpf.ie>
Sent: Thursday 12 March 2020 09:41
To: Sean Flood <Sean.Flood@nmpf.ie>; Joe Carroll <joe.carroll@nmpf.ie>; Margaret Rooney <Margaret.Rooney@nmpf.ie>; Donal O'Mahony <donal.omahony@nmpf.ie>
Subject: NTPF Capacity Enquiry

Dear Proprietor,

You will be aware that Ireland has 43 confirmed cases of Covid-19 (11/03/20). Given that this is an evolving situation daily, the NTPF have been asked to establish capacity within the Nursing Home sector to inform national capacity planning for the coming weeks.

The Department of Health is updating information on Covid-19 on a daily basis. Please ensure that you closely monitor the HSE website (<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>) to get accurate, up-to-date information. The HSE will continue to advise Nursing Home proprietors directly as necessary.

The Nursing home will need to have the ability to care for patients coming from an acute hospital setting with a variety of nursing and healthcare needs. The individuals will be identified by the hospitals and under the normal Nursing Home admission policy we would envisage the individual facility coordinates directly with the discharge unit within the hospital and assesses the patient for suitability for their home prior to admission as is usual practice. All potential residents will be tested and cleared by the hospital of the Covid-19 virus.

Facilities must be able to facilitate short term residents being discharged from the acute hospital. These residents will continue to require care but are not requiring long term care or Fair Deal funding at this time. Nursing Homes accept that residents may be nominated by the HSE or the Department of Health as applicable for receipt of appropriate funding.

Requirements:

- Single or appropriate doubles
- Appropriately skilled staff to care for residents with potentially more acute needs, for example, IV administration and post-op monitoring
- A Covid-19 free nursing home – follow HSE advice in this regard
- Ability to draw further staffing should staff shortages become an issue

At this point, we wish only to establish capacity to admit such residents into your home. Further instruction and discussion on terms and conditions will follow as directed by the Department of Health and HSE. This follow up and subsequent discussion may happen between the HSE and the Nursing Home directly.

This email does not constitute a contract or promise of residents from NTPF, the HSE or the Department of Health.

Due to the speed at which this situation is developing we would appreciate if you could complete and return the attached spreadsheet at your earliest and by today Thursday 16.00 at the latest so we can feed back to the Department of Health for capacity planning purposes.

Your contract manager is available to take calls or respond to queries by email.

Kind regards

Section40

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MOBILE NUMBER

Elena Walsh | Contract Manager | National Treatment Purchase Fund |
Ashford House, Ballyna 2, DO2 VX 67 | Tel: 087 9757393

Tá an t-eolas sa rionnghost seo, agus in aon cheanglán leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le haghaidh an tsolai umbáin.

D'fhéadfadh an t-eolas seo a bheith faoi phribhléid phoifísúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an solai a bhí beartaíte leis an rionnghost seo a fháil, ná cose air, ná aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chloipeáil, nó a scaoiteadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríobh an

t-ábhar ó do rionghaire le do thoil.

.....

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25

Adam Fleming

From: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Sent: Thursday 12 March 2020 16:40
Subject: COVID-19 / Coronavirus Update

Dear Colleague,

Please see communication (below) that was issued to our members this afternoon to keep you informed.

Kind regards,
Fiona Kenny
EA to CEO

[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear Member,

We are taking this opportunity to inform you regarding a few important matters relating to Covid-19 / Coronavirus.

- **Essential Workers**
- **Guidance on discharges and transfers**
- **Contingency Planning**
- **PPE**
- **Irish Association of Funeral Directors Guidance**
- **Finance/Banks**
- **Video guides**
- **SC Resources HSE & HP**

Please note, we are in continuous contact with the Department of Health and HSE and are committed to providing members with continued updates as appropriate.

Essential Workers

We have written to the Department of Health seeking clarification for issue to the

sector to ensure nursing homes are in a position to maintain staffing levels now and into the future. We have sought clarity regarding guidance issued by the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) expert advisory group with regard to managing healthcare workers who are in close contact with confirmed cases of the virus.

The [Irish Times](#) reported last Saturday advice from the NPHE: **"The advice noted that if a health facility cannot be staffed safely to provide critical services, those who have had close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus and have developed symptoms should be excluded from work. It added that staff who have not developed symptoms, and are deemed essential workers, may continue to work provided they observe infection prevention and control precautions and undergo active monitoring twice daily for 14 days after contact with a confirmed case."**

Guidance on discharges and transfers

[We issued HSE guidance on Tuesday evening](#). Since issued, we have had several queries and we are consulting with the Nursing Committee and SM Consulting with regard to questions raised for nursing homes. We will be sending further queries on this guidance to the HSE to ensure a consistent approach. We hope to have further information following conference call with Dr Siobhán Kennelly, National Clinical & Advisory Group Lead Older Persons HSE.

Contingency Planning

We have sought specific contingency planning guidance from the Department of Health. The nursing home sector requires sector-specific advice and guidance on contingency planning in the event that a resident and/or staff member is suspected or confirmed to have the Covid-19 virus. NHI and members require a clear public health-led protocol to refer to in the event of the virus entering a nursing home. Such protocols should be led by public health advices and the NPHE vulnerable persons subcommittee. As you are aware, to date our advices and guidance has

been focussed on protection, prevention and risk assessment.

PPE

The HSE has informed NHI it has supplies of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and will make equipment available to nursing homes through its crisis management teams at local level, as appropriate. Our engagement with the HSE and Department of Health has advanced it is imperative supplies are secured to ensure there is sufficient amount to support private and voluntary nursing homes managing any prospective Coronavirus outbreaks. Our representations in this regard continue.

Irish Association of Funeral Directors Guidance

The Association issued guidance to its members. It informs it is currently awaiting guidelines from the relevant health authorities, and in the interim, it is recommending that the following protocols are followed in the event of arranging a funeral for someone who has died from COVID-19. [Read the guidelines here.](#)

Finance/Banks

We have contacted Bank of Ireland, AIB and Ulster Bank and they have plans in place to support the sector during this crisis. The banks confirm that they are actively engaged with their customers within the nursing home sector and will continue to keep close contact over the coming weeks and months to ensure flexibility of financing arrangements where required.

Video guides

The HPSC has uploaded a series of video guides for health staff, with them including a video titled *Preventing the spread of infection - guidance for non-clinical health service staff*. [You can access the videos here.](#)

HSE & HPSC Resources

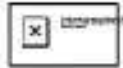
HSE and Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) Coronavirus guidance for health professionals is being updated on a consistent basis, with the last update

today 12th March. Click here to access [HSE specific guidance](#) and click here to access [HPSC guidance](#).

Yours,

Tadhg Daly,

Chief Executive Officer



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info@nhi.ie

Our contact number is:

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28



Re: Gov.ie - Updated Measures in Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Tadhg Daly

to:

Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie

12/03/2020 16:56

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>

Thank you Niall

Appreciate if you can revert to me on the action points discussed.

Thanks

Tadhg

On 12 Mar 2020, at 15:23, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie> wrote:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/ea1c30-updated-measures-in-response-to-covid-19-coronavirus/#visiting-hospitals-nursing-homes-and-long-stay-settings>

Sent from IBM

Verse*****

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COVID-19 / Coronavirus Update

Fiona Kenny

to:

12/03/2020 17:45

Hide Details

From: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>

To:

Security:

To ensure privacy, images from remote sites were prevented from downloading. Show Images

27

Dear Colleague,

Please see communication (below) that was issued to our members this afternoon to keep you informed.

Kind regards,
Fiona Kenny
EA to CEO

[View this email in your browser](#)

Dear Member,

We are taking this opportunity to inform you regarding a few important matters relating to Covid-19 / Coronavirus.

- **Essential Workers**
- **Guidance on discharges and transfers**
- **Contingency Planning**
- **PPE**

- **Irish Association of Funeral Directors Guidance**
- **Finance/Banks**
- **Video guides**
- **SC Resources HSE & HP**

Please note, we are in continuous contact with the Department of Health and HSE and are committed to providing members with continued updates as appropriate.

Essential Workers

We have written to the Department of Health seeking clarification for issue to the sector to ensure nursing homes are in a position to maintain staffing levels now and into the future. We have sought clarity regarding guidance issued by the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHET) expert advisory group with regard to managing healthcare workers who are in close contact with confirmed cases of the virus.

The [Irish Times](#) reported last Saturday advice from the NPHET: "The advice noted that if a health facility cannot be staffed safely to provide critical services, those who have had close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus and have developed symptoms should be excluded from work. It added that staff who have not developed symptoms, and are deemed essential workers, may continue to work provided they observe infection prevention and control precautions and undergo active monitoring twice daily for 14 days after contact with a confirmed case."

Guidance on discharges and transfers

[We issued HSE guidance on Tuesday evening](#). Since issued, we have had several queries and we are consulting with the Nursing Committee and SM Consulting with regard to questions raised for nursing homes. We will be sending further queries on this guidance to the HSE to ensure a consistent approach. We hope to have further information following conference call with Dr Siobhán Kennelly, National Clinical & Advisory Group Lead Older Persons HSE.

Contingency Planning

We have sought specific contingency planning guidance from the Department of Health. The nursing home sector requires sector-specific advice and guidance on contingency planning in the event that a resident and/or staff member is suspected or confirmed to have the Covid-19 virus. NHI and

members require a clear public health-led protocol to refer to in the event of the virus entering a nursing home. Such protocols should be led by public health advices and the NPHEP vulnerable persons subcommittee. As you are aware, to date our advices and guidance has been focussed on protection, prevention and risk assessment.

PPE

The HSE has informed NHI it has supplies of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and will make equipment available to nursing homes through its crisis management teams at local level, as appropriate. Our engagement with the HSE and Department of Health has advanced it is imperative supplies are secured to ensure there is sufficient amount to support private and voluntary nursing homes managing any prospective Coronavirus outbreaks. Our representations in this regard continue.

Irish Association of Funeral Directors Guidance

The Association issued guidance to its members. It informs it is currently awaiting guidelines from the relevant health authorities, and in the interim, it is recommending that the following protocols are followed in the event of arranging a funeral for someone who has died from COVID-19. [Read the guidelines here.](#)

Finance/Banks

We have contacted Bank of Ireland, AIB and Ulster Bank and they have plans in place to support the sector during this crisis. The banks confirm that they are actively engaged with their customers within the nursing home sector and will continue to keep close contact over the coming weeks and months to ensure flexibility of financing arrangements where required.

Video guides

The HPSC has uploaded a series of video guides for health staff, with them including a video titled *Preventing the spread of infection - guidance for non-clinical health service staff.* [You can access the videos here.](#)

HSE & HPSC Resources

HSE and Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) Coronavirus guidance for health professionals is being updated on a consistent basis, with the last update today 12th March. Click here to access [HSE specific guidance](#) and click here to access [HPSC guidance](#).

Yours,
Tadhg Daly,
Chief Executive Officer

FacebookTwitterLinkedInWebsite

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Our contact number is:

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28



Guidance and support for residents in the nursing home sector

Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie, Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie

13/03/2020 17:37

Cc:

"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie", "Fiona Kenny"

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>,
"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, "Fiona Kenny"

<ea@nhi.ie>

History: This message has been forwarded.

1 Attachment



13 March 2020 LT Kathleen McLellan DoH re COVID19.pdf

Kathleen,

I refer to our regular and ongoing communications in the current unprecedented environment. Be assured of NHI and member support as we collectively work to address the significant challenges for our population.

Attached letter on the requirement for the ongoing guidance and support of the nursing home sector in the interests of current and future residents in the care of our members.

We remain available to assist you and your colleagues.

Best regards,

Tadhg



Nursing Homes Ireland
2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. (01) 469 9800 | e. info@nhi.ie | nhi.ie

**Ms. Kathleen McLellan,
Chair, Vulnerable Persons Sub-Group,
National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE),
Department of Health,
Block 1, Miesian Plaza,
50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street,
Dublin, D02 XW14**

Dear Kathleen,

In the first instance we wish to acknowledge your engagement over the last number of weeks. We are committed to support our members and residents and provide leadership in this challenging and evolving environment in partnership with all stakeholders.

As you are aware, NHI and our member nursing homes recognise the gravity of the COVID 19 pandemic and remain committed to fully support the Government, our HSE colleagues and civic society in the national response to this emerging crisis. Nursing homes are reporting that they are being inundated with calls from hospitals / HSE facilities enquiring about capacity to facilitate discharges/ transfers. As you will be aware a significant number of admissions occur every day to nursing homes. However, COVID-19 presents unprecedented challenges for us all. It is our understanding that this week the NTPF and HIQA have also begun contacting nursing homes to enquire about capacity.

NHI continues to survey our members and can report that there is capacity within the sector. However, as you will appreciate, our number one priority at present is to firstly safeguard and protect the existing residents who live in our nursing homes. Nursing homes are, by definition, the facilities in which the most vulnerable citizens in the country are accommodated. The published epidemiology statistics, at risk co-morbidities and in particular the mortality rates for the over 70+ year olds surrounding Covid-19 is of grave concern to our sector given the demographic and disease profile of our residents.

The HSE issued interim guidance to nursing homes on Tuesday 10th March focussed on facilitating discharges from hospitals to nursing homes. The document contained no practical guidance to nursing homes on how to reduce the risk of transmission or to inform regarding the procedures to care for residents or staff that may present with symptoms. By way of example, no information was provided with regard to accessing PPE equipment which is a critical requirement to support nursing homes in effective infective

prevention should a case occur within a home. We are receiving constant queries from nursing homes with regard to how they can access such equipment and no assurance is coming from our health services in this regard. It should be noted that this document highlighted that the advice was subject to change as the response to the outbreak changed and it was circulated before Ireland moved into the 'delay phase'.

NHI responded to the guidance document on 12th March with a number of serious and very valid questions which we feel are necessary to clarify the exact precautions that registered providers/ persons in charge should take to ensure nursing homes accept further discharges from acute hospitals, and care for these 'at-risk' patients who would require a further period of isolation. To date we have received no response to our concerns and questions. Given the evolving situation we are unclear if this guidance remains current and we appreciate the challenges for all concerned in an evolving situation.

Private and voluntary nursing homes are an effective functioning part of the Irish health system, with a vital role to play in responding to this current crisis. In order to do so, it is necessary for full engagement with the sector to allay any valid concerns and to cooperate fully to minimise the risk to our residents and staff. We therefore respectfully request immediate engagement with our National Nursing Committee to discuss concerns to ensure NHI can issue further guidance to our members.

Every nursing home has a duty of care to protect the residents entrusted in their care. We also want to contribute positively to the successful tackling of this pandemic. We need commitment to partnership with HSE, Department of Health and NPHET during this unprecedented pandemic.

Yours sincerely,



**Tadhg Daly,
Chief Executive Officer**

Adam Fleming

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Saturday 14 March 2020 18:12
To: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
Cc: Fiona Kenny; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: Guidance and support for residents in the nursing home sector

Thank you Kathleen,
Appreciate you are inundated. As acknowledged nursing home residents are especially vulnerable.

Best regards to you and your team.

Tadhg

On 14 Mar 2020, at 16:12, "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie"
<Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie> wrote:

Many thanks Tadhg. I can assure you that work is ongoing over the weekend on guidance - I will be back in touch with you shortly.
Rgds

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>, "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: 13/03/2020 17:37
Subject: Guidance and support for residents in the nursing home sector

Kathleen,

I refer to our regular and ongoing communications in the current unprecedented environment. Be assured of NHI and member support as we collectively work to address the significant challenges for our population.

Attached letter on the requirement for the ongoing guidance and support of the nursing home sector in the interests of current and future residents in the care of our members.

We remain available to assist you and your colleagues.

Best regards,

Tadhg [attachment "13 March 2020 LT Kathleen McLellan DoH re COVID19.pdf" deleted by Kathleen MacLellan/SLAINTE]

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Adam Fleming

30

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Saturday 14 March 2020 20:45
To: Siobhan Kennelly; Tuohy, Sandra; Sandra Cavanagh
Cc: Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy); olderpeople.operations@hse.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Cormican, Professor. Martin, GUH; Michael McGlynn
Subject: RE: Updated criteria for a suspected case of coronavirus

Thank you Siobhan,
I can confirm that we will circulate your advices below asap.
I appreciate your commitment and support of residents in the private and voluntary sector.
Your proposal re webinar is most positive.

Thanks
Tadhg

From: Siobhan Kennelly <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>
Sent: Saturday 14 March 2020 19:27
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>; Tuohy, Sandra <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>; Sandra Cavanagh <sandra.cavanagh@hse.ie>
Cc: Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>; olderpeople.operations@hse.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Cormican, Professor. Martin, GUH <martin.cormican@hse.ie>
Subject: RE: Updated criteria for a suspected case of coronavirus

Tadhg

Apologies for delay. We have been actively working on this throughout the day given the recent suspected case definition update as you flag

Advice as follows

1. As per current HPSC guidance suspected cases of Covid 19 based on the new clinical criteria should be advised to the facility's GP in the first instance who following risk assessment can contact the National Ambulance Service to request Covid- 19 home assessment and testing. We would ask that senior clinicians (such as Directors of Nursing / assistant Directors of Nursing/ Person In Charge) within your facilities are involved in all discussions with GPs regarding referral of potential cases and that appropriate discretion is used in the application of the clinical criteria to residents referred for testing is applied.

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/algorithms/COVID-19%20Risk%20Assessment%20and%20Management%20of%20patients%20who%20phone%20v3.0.pdf>

2. All nursing homes are advised to isolate possible Covid 19 cases while awaiting results with precautions as advised in current guidance using standard precautions
3. Any resident requiring hospitalisation who they believe may be Covid 19 positive should be flagged with receiving hospital beforehand.

At present residents who have a confirmed diagnosis of Covid positive status are managed in acute hospital services. This may change as the situation regarding the epidemic itself changes. Guidance to assist your members in providing care to their residents in the current situation has been drafted and will be issued following review by the Expert Advisory Group to NPHEt shortly.

We would hope to schedule a webinar in coming days to facilitate an information session for members to assist with queries and advise on how they can best help prepare their staff, residents, families and others to be Covid-ready.

We would advise your members to continue monitoring the advice on the www.hpsc.ie website

Kind Regards

Dr Siobhán Kennelly
National Clinical & Advisory Group Lead , Older Persons
HSE
Ncagl.olderpersons@hse.ie

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Saturday 14 March 2020 10:45
To: Siobhan Kennelly <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>; Tuohy, Sandra <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>; Sandra Cavanagh <sandra.cavanagh@hse.ie>
Cc: Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>; olderpeople.operations@hse.ie
Subject: Updated criteria for a suspected case of coronavirus

Good morning Siobhan,

I note updated algorithm for Covid 19 risk assessment – attached updated HSPC/ HSE guidance dated 13/3.

Can you advise

Does this change mean that any resident with flu like symptoms needs to be tested.

Many nursing homes would have residents every day with the flu symptoms who will now need to be tested for COVID19. Do we require PPE for staff?

Guidance required.

Thanks,

Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive
e. tdaly@nhi.ie
p. 01/4699800
m. 087/2651934



Nursing Homes Ireland

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t. 01 466 9800
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in association with Homecare Medical

Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie

e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie

t. (01) 296 9394

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Need information and advice on COVID-19? Go to www.hse.ie/coronavirus

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Má fuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí dhearmad, bheadh muid buíoch dá gairfeá in iúl don Deasc Seirbhíais ECT ar an nguthán ag +353 818 300300 nó ar an ríomhphost chuig service_desk@hse.ie agus ansin glan an ríomhphost seo ó d'chóras."

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31



IMPORTANT re PPE RE: Updated criteria for a suspected case of coronavirus

Tadhg Daly

to:

Siobhan Kennelly, Tuohy, Sandra, Sandra Cavanagh

15/03/2020 14:45

Cc:

"Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy)", "olderpeople.operations@hse.ie", "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie", "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie", "Cormican, Professor. Martin, GUH", Michael McGlynn

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie> Sort List...

To: Siobhan Kennelly <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>, "Tuohy, Sandra"

<sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>, Sandra Cavanagh <sandra.cavanagh@hse.ie>

Cc: "Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy)" <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>, "olderpeople.operations@hse.ie"

<olderpeople.operations@hse.ie>, "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie"

<Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"

<Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Cormican, Professor. Martin, GUH"

<martin.cormican@hse.ie>, Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>

History: This message has been forwarded.

Hi Siobhan,

I can confirm that we have circulated this advices and guidance to nursing homes.

As per our ongoing representations there is a critical issue with the challenges of securing PPE for the nursing home sector. Appropriate PPE is required for all nursing homes and nursing homes need to know where to access the supplies required to ensure the sector is in a position to follow HSE/ HSPC guidelines to protect residents and staff.

As previously discussed it is clear that current stocks of PPE in the nursing home sector is inadequate. HSE have previously confirmed that it has supplies of PPE and will make equipment available to nursing homes through its crisis management teams at local level, as appropriate.

Also to note that members are reporting that suppliers are not in a position to supply as they state that they are supplying all such products exclusively to HSE at this time.

We need confirmation of the provision of PPE to the sector as a priority.

Thanks

Tadhg

From: Tadhg Daly

Sent: Saturday 14 March 2020 20:45

To: Siobhan Kennelly <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>; Tuohy, Sandra <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>; Sandra Cavanagh <sandra.cavanagh@hse.ie>

Cc: Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>; olderpeople.operations@hse.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Cormican, Professor. Martin, GUH <martin.cormican@hse.ie>; Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>

Subject: RE: Updated criteria for a suspected case of coronavirus

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Sent: Saturday 14 March 2020 19:27

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Kind Regards

Dr Siobhán Kennelly

National Clinical & Advisory Group Lead , Older Persons

HSE

Ncagl.olderpersons@hse.ie

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Guidance required.

Thanks,

Tadhg

Tadhg Daly

Chief Executive

e. tdaly@nhi.ie

p. 01/4699800

m. 087/2651934

Nursing Homes Ireland

nhi

2851 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299,
t. 01-469 9330
e. info@nhi.ie
nhi.ie

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Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie

e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie

t. (01) 296 9394

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Má fuair tú an ríomhphost seo ní dheanfaid, bheodh muid buíoch dá gcuireá in iúl don Desic Seirbhíse ICT ar an nguthán ag +353 818 300300 nó ar an ríomhphost chug service.desk@hse.ie agus a hain glan an ríomhphost seo de' chónas."

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32



Covid19 and the nursing home sector

Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie, Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie,

Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie

16/03/2020 15:22

Cc:

"Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy)", "olderpeople.operations@hse.ie", NCAGL Older Persons, Fiona Kenny
Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>,

"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>,

"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy)" <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>, "olderpeople.operations@hse.ie"

<olderpeople.operations@hse.ie>, NCAGL Older Persons <ncagl.olderpersons@hse.ie>,

Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>

History: This message has been forwarded.

Dear Kathleen,

In the first instance I wish to acknowledge ongoing engagement with your Department and the HSE during this very challenging and constantly changing period, as essential. As you will be aware from our meetings and communications, nursing homes are, by definition, the facilities in which the most vulnerable citizens in the country are cared for.

In that regard we require commitment to constant two-way dialogue as we strive to protect nursing home residents and to ensure homes are positioned to meet the huge test that is being presented to the nation.

In such regard, I am following up again with regard to critical issues that we have received numerous representations from nursing homes regarding:

- **PPE Equipment:** There is considerable anxiety amongst private and voluntary homes regarding their capacity to access PPE Equipment. Your assistance with this will be vital to keep private and voluntary nursing homes open as the crisis deepens. Timely provision of such equipment is paramount for the protection of our frontline workers and in turn residents. Suppliers have confirmed to NHI and members that they are not in a position to supply as they state that they are supplying all such products exclusively to HSE at this time. We appreciate there is unprecedented requirements for such equipment but seek assurance of immediate access to supply for private and voluntary nursing homes and there will not be discrimination applied in providing such essential equipment;
- **Essential Workers:** It is important the private and voluntary nursing home sector is designated as an essential service to ensure it can function through the crisis. Can you confirm the up-to-date status and guidance regarding essential workers and the categorisation of such? Also, could you clarify your guidance if our essential workers are exposed to Covid-19? Will the same protocols apply as in the public system where they are provided with PPE, they may continue to work provided they observe infection prevention and control precautions and undergo 'active monitoring' twice daily for 14 days after contact with a confirmed case while self-isolating at home after their shift? You might confirm they will get priority for testing and if we are asking them to work through, that if they do become ill, they will have a designation for hospital treatment as an essential worker? Furthermore, we ask that the State gives the same respect and rights to essential workers in the private and voluntary sector as will be given to their counterparts in the public system and similarly as per local authorities, regulators and national service providers. We would also ask in the event of challenges with deep cleaning, that the Government communicates with national contract cleaners to give priority to the sector along with other essential industries.
- **Workforce:** As per previous representations to An Taoiseach and the Minister for Health that are attached (and also to HSE DG Paul Reid and senior officials in the Department of Health and HSE), we reiterate that the recruitment of staff from our sector by the State will be to the severe detriment of

people in nursing home care who present with severe underlying health conditions. It is of huge concern that private and voluntary nursing homes have started to inform NHI that staff are being actively recruited on behalf of the HSE, severely pressurising the capability of nursing homes to meet resident care needs in an already severely pressurised situation. The continuation of such actions presents a potentially cataclysmic scenario for the health service.

- We believe a dedicated working group should be established immediately with you to co-ordinate activities in the residential care sector during the crisis.
- We propose that the Department of Social Protection establish a data base of workers available with key skills and that such staff are Vetted centrally by the National Vetting Bureau in advance so they could potentially work at short notice in nursing homes. Many of our citizens who have been laid off from the hospitality (for example chefs/ housekeeping/ cleaning) and other sectors could be key workers in the weeks and months ahead.
- In time security may become an important issue. We note the public commitments from Gardai and Army and request that as appropriate they would allow some priority to our sector.

We remain committed to ongoing engagement with your Department, colleagues and the HSE during this public health emergency.

Best regards,
Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive
e. tdaly@nhi.ie
p. 01/4699800
m. 087/2651934

Nursing Homes Ireland



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From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 17 March 2020 15:37
To: Fiona Kenny
Subject: Covid-19 / Coronavirus: Update re recruitment & representations

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Dear Member,

Initially, I take this opportunity to wish you and your colleagues a very Happy St Patrick's Day.

We take this opportunity to update you with regard to:

- **NHI Recruitment drive launched today, St Patrick's Day**
- **Representation to Minister for Health Simon Harris re Department of Health / HSE Recruitment Drive**
- **Guidance re COVID-19 case presenting for nursing home**
- **Representation to Government re challenges presenting**
- **Your representations required: Inform health spokespersons & TDs of challenges presented for our sector**
- **Irish Times article re nursing home care & Coronavirus - a relative's perspective**

NHI Recruitment drive launched today, St Patrick's Day

NHI has communicated with media to inform: *"On St Patrick's Day, Nursing Homes Ireland has appealed to people within our hospitality and retail sectors to look for opportunities that will present in providing care to older people during the Coronavirus emergency. Staffing needs will arise for nursing homes in meeting the care needs of older people, with the disciplines in nursing homes being wide-ranging. Roles on a*

temporary basis that may interest people could include those of healthcare professionals including nurses and physios, healthcare assistants, catering, activities, ancillary or administrative support."

We have urged people who feel they can contribute to care of the older person to present such to nursing homes by way of outlining their skillset in a short email and to present their CV with it. So please be aware you may receive representations from people offering their skillsets and interested in fulfilling roles in the coming days and we ask you to treat expressions of interest with respect. Furthermore, we have informed engagement can be undertaken by candidates with NHI with regard to identifying prospective nursing homes. [Read our communication to media in full here and we will promote it on our own channels.](#)

Representation to Minister for Health Simon Harris re Department of Health / HSE Recruitment Drive

You are likely aware today the Department of Health and HSE are launching a National Recruitment Campaign. Today we have written to Minister Harris with regard to the campaign. This follows on from letters previously issued to Minister Harris and senior health officials (9th March) with regard to State recruitment of people from our sector. Our letter today states: *"The potential recruitment of staff from our sector will be to the severe detriment of people in nursing home care who present with severe underlying health conditions. Loss of nursing and care staff during a constrained recruiting period can jeopardise the care provided to nursing home residents during this national emergency. Nursing homes have very real concerns in respect of the potentially huge challenges now presented. If nursing home staff are targeted, private and voluntary nursing homes may find that they will have to reduce capacity, thereby placing intolerable pressure on an already overstretched acute hospital system."* We will keep Members updated accordingly with regard to this critical issue.

Guidance re COVID-19 case presenting for nursing home

Our representations to the HSE and Department of Health with regard to comprehensive guidance to assist nursing homes in providing care to their residents in the current situation continues. We have been informed the drafted guidance is being reviewed by relevant agencies and will be provided to NHI shortly.

Representation to Government re challenges presenting

Yesterday, we communicated with the Department of Health and opposition health spokespersons with regard to key challenges being presented to the sector and the requirement for State support. Our communication to them informed regarding the requirement to support our sector in:

- PPE Equipment
- Essential Workers
- Workforce Planning
- Emergency Services support for our sector

Your representations required: Inform health spokespersons & TDs of challenges presented for our sector

We encourage Members to engage with political party health and older person spokespersons and also local TDs to inform of the challenges being presented to you. Covid-19 presents a national health emergency and the challenges being presented to private and voluntary nursing homes must not be overlooked. A copy of the email issued yesterday can be provided to support your representations.

Irish Times article re nursing home care & Coronavirus - a relative's perspective

Click to read article in today's Irish Times: ['Luckily, he is oblivious to the coronavirus crisis': Daddy, dementia and me](#). The article features an interview with Áine Ryan, speaking about the present scenario presented with Coronavirus and care for her father George in a nursing home. The article states:

"A couple of days later a text message lands from George's nursing home explaining that strict visitor restrictions were being implemented because of the developing

coronavirus crisis. Family and friends should only visit if the circumstances were urgent and should always phone the nursing home beforehand, the message stated. No non-essential visiting, children, or groups are allowed, it continued. That all made perfect sense to me and, indeed, still does even though Dr Tony Holohan, the HSE's chief medical officer, has now said that "blanket restrictions" were unnecessary at this stage in the crisis, adding that social interaction was key to the well-being of nursing home residents. This, of course, was before Thursday's announcement by Taoiseach Leo Varadkar of the partial shutdown of the country.

Frankly, I had felt a huge sense of relief that the decision to visit Daddy was being taken out of my hands.

Hysteria

I trust the original decision, which was made under the advice of Nursing Homes Ireland, and clearly supported by the expert staff who have cared for George every day since he became a resident almost five years ago.

What I liked about the message was that it was low-key and had no hint of hysteria. "Phew," I exhaled as I read the message a second time."

Enjoy the St Patrick's Day celebrations.

Yours,

Michael McGlynn,

Communications & Research Executive



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Covid-19 / Coronavirus: Update re recruitment & representations

Tadhg Daly

to:

Fiona Kenny

17/03/2020 15:38

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>

[View this email in your browser](#)



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We have urged people who feel they can contribute to care of the older person to present such to nursing homes by way of outlining their skillset in a short email and to present their CV with it. So please be aware you may receive representations from people offering their skillsets and interested in fulfilling roles in the coming days and we ask you to treat expressions of interest with respect. Furthermore, we have informed engagement can be undertaken by candidates with NHI with regard to identifying prospective nursing homes. [Read our communication to media in full here and we will promote it on our own channels.](#)

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Enjoy the St Patrick's Day celebrations.

Yours,
Michael McGlynn,
Communications & Research Executive

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Fw: Staffing and recruitment in the nursing home sector

Matthew O'Gorman to: Covid 19 Queries

Cc: Joanne Lonergan, Services for the Elderly

17/03/2020 15:45

From: Matthew O'Gorman/SLAINTE
To: Covid 19 Queries/SLAINTE@SLAINTE
Cc: Joanne Lonergan/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Services for the Elderly

Hi Folks

Please see attached letter from Tadhg Daly, NHI, re today's announced recruitment drive

Kind regards

Matthew

Matthew O'Gorman
Private Secretary
Minister Harris' Private Office

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Balle Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

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M +353 87 699 3579
Diary email - MinistersDiary@health.gov.ie

matthew_ogorman@health.gov.ie

— Forwarded by Matthew O'Gorman/SLAINTE on 17/03/2020 15:44 —

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "simon.harris@oireachtas.ie" <simon.harris@oireachtas.ie>,
"Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie" <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: 17/03/2020 15:34
Subject: Staffing and recruitment in the nursing home sector

Dear Minister,

I am taking this opportunity of writing to you again re staffing and recruitment in the nursing home sector

You will be aware we are in continuous contact with your health officials, the HSE and NPHET with regard to guiding and supporting nursing homes as a critical element during this national public health emergency.

We remain committed to working with you and your colleagues in Government and the health services during these unprecedented challenging times for our health services and wider society.

Best regards,
Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive

e. tdaly@nhi.ie
p. 01/4699800
m. 087/2651934

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17 March 2020 LT Minister Harris re staff recruitment in nursing homes.pdf



Nursing Homes Ireland
2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. (01) 469 9800 | e. info@nhi.ie | nhi.ie

Minister Simon Harris TD
Department of Health,
Block 1,
Miesian Plaza,
50 – 58 Lower Baggot Street,
D02 XW14

17th March 2020

Dear Minister Harris,

I refer to the national recruitment drive announced today by your Department and HSE.

We appreciate the unprecedented challenges presented by COVID-19 for our health services and you will be aware we are in continuous contact with your health officials, the HSE and NPHET with regard to guiding and supporting nursing homes as a critical element during this national public health emergency.

You will be aware from ongoing representations to your Department and wider Government nursing homes are already under severe staffing pressures due to substantive shortfall of healthcare assistants presenting across the country. This is underscored by challenges that are presented in identifying nursing candidates to fulfil vacant posts.

On behalf of the 400+ private and voluntary nursing homes across the country, we plead with the State to desist targeting the recruitment of staff from the private and voluntary nursing home sector. We share with you the unparalleled challenges COVID-19 presents and to the fore are the challenges that presently present and will likely be exacerbated in the coming days and weeks in the recruitment of healthcare and support staff.

We informed of such challenges in our letter 9th March, circulated to you and senior health officials. Disappointingly, we are now receiving representations from nursing homes informing the HSE has targeted the recruitment of staff from homes and departures are leaving them under increased pressure moving into the challenging days, weeks and months ahead.

We reiterate our asks within that letter:

- HSE prioritise the appointment of candidates from outside Ireland from the recruitment panels currently in force. Such international candidates should ideally

be from countries with a strong ability to manage the virus or less impacted by it. Their recruitment should entail careful monitoring by the health service for Covid-19.

- Immediate lifting of the restrictions on the recruitment of healthcare assistants from outside the EU. An immediate lifting of the restrictions is an imperative necessity to address the long-standing shortfall presenting across our health services. Again, their recruitment should entail careful monitoring by the health service for Covid-19.

The potential recruitment of staff from our sector will be to the severe detriment of people in nursing home care who present with severe underlying health conditions. Loss of nursing and care staff during a constrained recruiting period can jeopardise the care provided to nursing home residents during this national emergency.

Nursing homes have very real concerns in respect of the potentially huge challenges now presented. If nursing home staff are targeted, private and voluntary nursing homes may find that they will have to reduce capacity, thereby placing intolerable pressure on an already overstretched acute hospital system

There is more to be achieved through collaboration than conflict. We would ask you to cooperate with us with regard to this essential and critical matter. Private and voluntary nursing homes will also need to engage in considerable recruitment drives. As presented in our letter 9th March, we may be able to jointly benefit from the lifting of restrictions on HCA recruitment.

We remain committed to working with you and your colleagues in Government and the health services during these unprecedented challenging times for our health services and wider society.

Yours sincerely,



**Tadhg Daly,
Chief Executive Officer**

36



FW: Covid 19 / Corovirus: HSE Clinical & Infection Control Guidance for Residential Care

Tadhg Daly

to:

Tadhg Daly

17/03/2020 18:41

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear Member,

Please find provided HSE guidance: **Preliminary Clinical and Infection Control Guidance for COVID-19 in nurse-led Residential Care Facilities (RCF)**

The Guidance informs regarding:

- General Measures to reduce the risk of accidental introduction of COVID-19 into a Residential Care Facility
- General advice regarding care of residents infected during COVID-19 epidemic
- Common Symptoms and Signs indicative of possible COVID-19 illness
- Clinical Investigations supporting diagnosis of COVID-19
- Clinical Monitoring and management of patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 status in RCF
- Decision algorithm in regards to escalation reflecting anticipatory guidance
- Infection Prevention and Control Management for differing scenarios:

Be aware that within the changing nature of the epidemic clinical guidance regarding management may change quite quickly and keep updated with relevant sites at www.hse.ie and www.hpsc.ie, the HSE states.

As per email last Sunday, the HSE informs it will be linking tying in with NHI in coming days with regard to webinar specific for nursing homes.

Specific issues raised by NHI with regard to staffing contacts and PPE are being advanced within HSE and will be responded to we are informed.

Dr Siobhán Kennelly, National Clinical & Advisory Group Lead for Older Persons, states: "I am conscious of the significant efforts being made by your members to support this very high-risk group of older people and others in the context of the current COVID 19 epidemic and assure you of my ongoing support as we try to collectively meet these challenges."

We thank Dr Kennelly for her continued engagement and will continue to provide nursing homes with regular updates.

Yours,
Tadhg Daly,
Chief Executive Officer

nhi

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From: gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie
Sent: Wednesday 20 May 2020 12:26
To: Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie
Cc: Paul_Bolger@health.gov.ie; Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie
Subject: Correspondence to NHI - email trail 1 of 2

Hi Helen

Regarding correspondence between me and NHI, please see email trail below, being 1of 2 I am sending on to you. Some just related to meeting arrangements, so I will leave it up to you to confirm the level of correspondence this request relates to. Our engagement with NHI was essentially related to work permits for HCWs, which has been business as usual activity rather than specifically covid related.

Kind regards

Gerry

— Forwarded by Gerry O'Brien/SLAINTE on 20/05/2020 11:22 —

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Cait Lynch" <hradvice@nhi.ie>, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>, "National_HR_Unit@health.gov.ie" <National_HR_Unit@health.gov.ie>, "Services_for_the_Elderly@health.gov.ie" <Services_for_the_Elderly@health.gov.ie>
Date: 18/03/2020 21:59
Subject: RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Gerry,

Thank you for your email.
I can confirm availability for a conference call on Friday next 10th March.

Can I suggest Friday morning? 10am?

Best regards,
Tadhg

From: gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 18 March 2020 19:23
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Cait Lynch <hradvice@nhi.ie>; Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie; National_HR_Unit@health.gov.ie; Services_for_the_Elderly@health.gov.ie
Subject: RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Good evening Tadhg

Today myself and colleagues held a constructive meeting with colleagues in DEBI regarding the matters at hand, and I had undertaken to get in touch with you afterwards.

Would you be available for a meeting on Friday please? Given the current environment, we are conducting as many meetings as possible by teleconference if that suits?

Kind regards

Gerry

Gerry O'Brien
Principal Officer
People, Pay & Superannuation Unit
Resources Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

T +353 (0)1 635 4235
www.health.gov.ie

From: Gerry O'Brien/SLAINTE
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <fk@nhi.ie>, Cail Lynch <lradvice@nhi.ie>, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>, National HR Unit
Date: 16/03/2020 11:18
Subject: RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Good morning Tadhg

Apologies that I have not replied to you myself sooner, but as you can imagine the response to COVID is taking up a lot of our energies.

A meeting is to place between this department and the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (DEBI) on Wednesday to consider this matter in the context of the new circumstances we find ourselves in. Even since this meeting was arranged things have moved on, so other considerations such as travel restrictions and feasibility of recruiting staff from certain jurisdictions will need form part of our deliberations.

I appreciate this is an urgent matter for your industry, and we will be in touch on Wednesday afternoon to update you on any developments in this regard.

Yours sincerely

Gerry

Gerry O'Brien
Principal Officer
People, Pay & Superannuation Unit
Resources Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
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From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>, "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>, Cáit Lynch <hradvice@nhi.ie>
Date: 16/03/2020 09:56
Subject: RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Samantha,

As per my earlier emails, advice and guidance to nursing homes is a priority.
This matter requires urgent attention to ensure that nursing homes can maintain staffing levels.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Tadhg

From: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Thursday 12 March 2020 12:44
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie; Cáit Lynch <hradvice@nhi.ie>
Subject: RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Tadhg

It is unlikely that Gerry will be in a position to respond to you, as he, and many of the other senior managers are involved in multiple high level meetings/briefings taking place throughout the day today.
I want to reassure you that this matter is being given urgent consideration by all relevant governmental stakeholders, who are meeting next week to discuss options in relation to any change to the employment permits lists that may be required.

We will revert further in due course, however in the interim, you may wish to advise your members that this matter is receiving due attention.

Thanks

Sam

Samantha Kenny

People, Pay and Superannuation Unit (PPSU) | Resources Division | Department of Health | Block 1, Miesian Plaza | 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street | Dublin D02 XW14
Direct Dial: 01 6354069 | Email: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>, Cáit Lynch <hradvice@nhi.ie>, "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>
Date: 12/03/2020 12:29
Subject: RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Gerry,

Given the announcement re closure of schools and colleges this matter requires urgent attention to ensure that nursing homes can maintain staffing levels.

Thanks
Tadhg

From: Tadhg Daly
Sent: Thursday 12 March 2020 11:11
To: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Cáit Lynch <hradvice@nhi.ie>; gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie
Subject: RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Thank you Samantha
My mobile is 087/2651934
I am in Dept of Health this afternoon if required.

Thanks
Tadhg

From: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Thursday 12 March 2020 11:04
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Cáit Lynch <hradvice@nhi.ie>; gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Tadhg

Gerry O'Brien is the Principal Officer at present. I am copying him in on this email.

We are aware of the communications to the Secretary General, and from Kathleen MacLellan.

We will revert shortly.

Thanks
Sam

Samantha Kenny

People, Pay and Superannuation Unit (PPSU) | Resources Division | Department of Health | Block 1, Miesian Plaza | 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street | Dublin D02 XW14

Direct Dial: 01 6354069 | Email: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Sorcha Murray" <Sorcha_Murray@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Cáit Lynch" <hradvice@nhi.ie>, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>
Date: 12/03/2020 10:57
Subject: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Dear Sorcha,

Please see below email communication on the subject of essential workers in the context of the challenges presented by COVID-19.

Can you provide this guidance from the expert advisory group has been established on managing healthcare workers as a priority so that we are in position to advise members.

Best regards,

Tadhg

From: Tadhg Daly
Sent: Tuesday 10 March 2020 19:36
To: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie
Subject: RE: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Thank you Kathleen,
I will call you tomorrow
Tadhg

From: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 10 March 2020 18:53
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Tadhg

We will follow up with our public health and workforce planning colleagues and we might have a chat tomorrow?
Rgds

Kathleen

Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan
Assistant Secretary, Social Care Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: 10/03/2020 18:08
Subject: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Kathleen,

I understand that as part of NPHE re COVID-19 that an expert advisory group has been established on managing healthcare workers.

I refer to the statement of the chair of the advisory group Dr Cillian de Gascun as reported in this week's Irish Times stated that if staff who have not developed symptoms and are deemed essential workers, may continue to work provided they observe infection prevention and control precautions and undergo active monitoring twice daily for 14 days after contact with a confirmed case.

Can you confirm the advices from the expert advisory group on managing healthcare workers and also advise on the specific requirements of "active monitoring" so that we are in a position to advise at the earliest opportunity.

Thanks
Tadhg

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Urgent re nursing home sector

Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie, Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie,

Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie

18/03/2020 18:45

Cc:

"siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie", "Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) (olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie)", "olderpeople.operations@hse.ie", "Tuohy, Sandra", "Michael McGlynn", "NCAGL Older Persons"

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie> Sort List...

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>,

"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>,

"Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie" <Sarah_Cooney@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie" <siobhan.kennelly1@hse.ie>, "Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy) (olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie)" <olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>,

"olderpeople.operations@hse.ie" <olderpeople.operations@hse.ie>, "Tuohy, Sandra" <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>,"Michael McGlynn" <Michael@nhi.ie>,"NCAGL Older Persons" <ncagl.olderpersons@hse.ie>

History: This message has been forwarded.

Dear Kathleen,

Further to our ongoing engagement and our representations, I reiterate my thanks to you and your colleagues for your continued collaboration as together we commit to ensure the care of the 25,000 residents in private and voluntary nursing home are addressed as a particularly vulnerable group in the current challenges presented by Covid19.

We are very appreciative of your round-the-clock engagement and availability in this regard. You will be aware there are a number of pressing issues outstanding but further matters have arisen in the past 24 / 48 hours that are particularly urgent.

We immediately require the following addressed;

- You will be aware that there are now confirmed cases of Covid19 positive residents in the nursing home sector and individual nursing homes are taking the required steps as per the national guidance. The provision of PPE, oxygen and other required supplies is challenging to say the least with many nursing homes exhausting their stocks. Nursing homes require express commitment and contact numbers for the appropriate HSE personnel to provide the equipment required as per previous commitment.
- In an increasing number of nursing homes, residents and staff are awaiting testing and also awaiting test results for potential Covid19. There is a requirement for the prioritisation of the testing of both residents and staff in all healthcare facilities inc. nursing homes to ensure staff on the frontline are protected. Delays occurring can present cataclysmic consequences for nursing home residents and our staff who are on the frontline in meeting older people's healthcare needs.
- With suspected cases (tested and awaiting test results) nursing homes require PPE equipment to safeguard all residents and staff. Nursing homes contact their local HSE/ CHO office (as per guidelines) to inform of such and request PPE equipment be provided for staff providing care to the isolated resident(s). Nursing homes inform the response from HSE offices are inconsistent and not supportive, stating they are not in a position to support the nursing home. In other instances, we are being informed the office is informing the PPE equipment is being prioritised for HSE use. The actions in this regard are resulting in an unnecessary risk to residents and staff within our nursing homes and them being discriminated against.

- As previously discussed suppliers across the country are advising that they are not in a position to supply PPE and equipment as they state that they are prioritising HSE with no supplies available for the private and voluntary sector.

I would request an urgent meeting / engagement (conference call) with regard to these and the other outstanding issues.

I would ask Kathleen these issues be addressed with the urgency they require and I remain available.

Thanks,
Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive
e. tdaly@nhi.ie
p. 01/4699800
m. 087/2651934

Nursing Homes Ireland



2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. (01) 469 9800
e. info@nhi.ie
nhi.ie

NHI Care Awards 2020
in association with Homecare Medical
Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie
e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie
t. (01) 296 9394

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RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

18/03/2020 19:23

Gerry O'Brien to: Tadhg Daly
Cc: Fiona Kenny, Cáit Lynch, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie",
National HR Unit, Services for the Elderly

From: Gerry O'Brien/SLAINTE
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>, Cáit Lynch <hradvice@nhi.ie>,
"Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>, National HR Unit,
Services for the Elderly

Good evening Tadhg

Today myself and colleagues held a constructive meeting with colleagues in DEBI regarding the matters at hand, and I had undertaken to get in touch with you afterwards.

Would you be available for a meeting on Friday please? Given the current environment, we are conducting as many meetings as possible by teleconference if that suits?

Kind regards

Gerry

Gerry O'Brien
Principal Officer
People, Pay & Superannuation Unit
Resources Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Block 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

T +353 (0)1 635 4235
www.health.gov.ie

Gerry O'Brien Good morning Tadhg Apologies that I have not re... 16/03/2020 11:18:41

From: Gerry O'Brien/SLAINTE
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>, Cáit Lynch <hradvice@nhi.ie>, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>, National HR Unit
Date: 16/03/2020 11:18
Subject: RE: FW: Essential Workers/ managing healthcare workers

Good morning Tadhg

Apologies that I have not replied to you myself sooner, but as you can imagine the response to COVID is taking up a lot of our energies.

A meeting is to place between this department and the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation (DEBI) on Wednesday to consider this matter in the context of the new circumstances we find ourselves in. Even since this meeting was arranged things have moved on, so other considerations such as travel restrictions and feasibility of recruiting staff from certain jurisdictions will need form part of our deliberations.

I appreciate this is an urgent matter for your industry, and we will be in touch on Wednesday afternoon to update you on any developments in this regard.

Yours sincerely

Gerry

Gerry O'Brien
Principal Officer
People, Pay & Superannuation Unit
Resources Division

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

T +353 (0)1 635 4235
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Tadhg Daly

Samantha, As per my earlier emails, advice and g...

16/03/2020 09:56:29

40



Fwd: NTPF Capacity Enquiry

Tadg Daly

to:

Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie

12/03/2020 15:39

Cc:

"Fiona Kenny"

Hide Details

From: "Tadg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <fk@nhi.ie>

2 Attachments



NH Capacity 11.03.2020.xlsx ATT00001.htm

Niall

Below as discussed just now

Keep me informed

Thanks

Tadg

From: Section40 <Section40@ntp.ie>

Sent: Thursday 12 March 2020 09:41

To: Sean Flood <Sean.Flood@ntp.ie>; Joe Carroll <joe.carroll@ntp.ie>; Margaret Rooney <Margaret.Rooney@ntp.ie>; Donal O'Mahony

<donal.omahony@ntp.ie>

Subject: NTPF Capacity Enquiry

Dear Proprietor,

You will be aware that Ireland has 43 confirmed cases of Covid-19 (11/03/20). Given that this is an evolving situation daily, the NTPF have been asked to establish capacity within the Nursing Home sector to inform national capacity planning for the coming weeks.

The Department of Health is updating information on Covid-19 on a daily basis. Please ensure that you closely monitor the HSE website (<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>) to get accurate, up-to-date information. The HSE will continue to advise Nursing Home proprietors directly as necessary.

The Nursing home will need to have the ability to care for patients coming from an acute hospital setting with a variety of nursing and healthcare needs. The individuals will be identified by the hospitals and under the normal Nursing Home admission policy we would envisage the individual facility coordinates directly with the discharge unit within the hospital and assesses the patient for suitability for their home prior to admission as is usual practice. All potential residents will be tested and cleared by the hospital of the Covid-19 virus.

Facilities must be able to facilitate short term residents being discharged from the acute hospital. These residents will continue to require care but are not requiring long term care or Fair Deal funding at this time. Nursing Homes accept that residents may be nominated by the HSE or the Department of Health as applicable for receipt of appropriate funding.

Requirements:

- Single or appropriate doubles
- Appropriately skilled staff to care for residents with potentially more acute needs, for example, IV administration and post-op monitoring
- A Covid-19 free nursing home – follow HSE advice in this regard
- Ability to draw further staffing should staff shortages become an issue

At this point, we wish only to establish capacity to admit such residents into your home. Further instruction and discussion on terms and conditions will follow as directed by the Department of Health and HSE. This follow up and subsequent discussion may happen between the HSE and the Nursing Home directly.

This email does not constitute a contract or promise of residents from NTPF, the HSE or the Department of Health.

Due to the speed at which this situation is developing we would appreciate if you could complete and return the attached spreadsheet at your earliest and by today Thursday 16.00 at the latest so we can feed back to the Department of Health for capacity planning purposes.

Your contract manager is available to take calls or respond to queries by email.

Kind regards

Section40

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MOBILE NUMBER

Fiona Webb | Contract Manager | National Treatment Purchase Fund |

Ashted House, Dublin 2, D02 VX 67 | Tel: 087 9737262

Tá an t-eolas sa rianphost seo, agus in aon cheanglaín leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le haghaidh an tscoláir amháin.

D'fhéadfadh an t-eolas seo a bheith faoi phribhléid phroifisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an scoláir a bhí beartaithe leis an rianphost seo a fháil, tá cose air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a choipeáil, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bhuair dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus seirís an

t-ábhar ó do rianaire le do thoil.

.....

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Adam Fleming

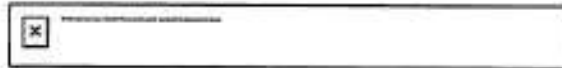
41

From: info@nhi.ie
Sent: Thursday 19 March 2020 11:50
Subject: FW: Covid-19 Update: Access to PPE Equipment & Dedicated Recruitment Portal

Dear Colleague,

Please see the latest communication that was issued to our members for your information.

[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear Member,

In the first instance, I take this opportunity to thank you and your staff as we work together day and night to care for our residents and each other.

We are providing two important updates within this mailing:

- **Access to PPE equipment – HSE contacts**
- **Dedicated recruitment portal arriving in coming days – we need your HR emails!**

Access to PPE equipment – HSE contacts

Our engagement with senior officials in the Department of Health and HSE is continuous. Yesterday we were engaged with regard to inconsistent and non-supportive responses received from HSE CHO's (Community Healthcare Organisations) with regard to access to PPE equipment and possible Covid-19 cases presenting. Arising, the HSE yesterday informed all Chief Officers "it is vital the HSE monitors and supports colleagues in private and voluntary nursing home sectors". It has instructed each CHO:

- "Public, Private and Voluntary Nursing Home Centres in your area should be immediately afforded a link to public health and also to a named person in your services so you can support and monitor centres with potential or confirmed outbreaks of Covid-19.

- “Requests for PPE to support such centres should be made through the normal channels of procurement to manage demand and to ensure that any centres (across the spectrum) with suspected or confirmed Covid-19 cases are provided with an initial level of PPE to support their task to contain an outbreak and maintain where possible residents in their own settings. You will be aware that guidance has been issued in relation to same, along with guidance in relation to the appropriate use of PPE. While this process is being ramped up by yourselves and if there is a need for an urgent initial level of PPE to be provided to a centre with an outbreak, please contact either Sandra Tuohy or Michael Fitzgerald who will assist in provision of same.”

[Read the letter from the National Director of Community Operations to the Chief Officers here.](#)

We are providing you with the contact details for HBS, the organisation responsible for procurement on behalf of the HSE. [Click here to visit the HBS Procurement COVID-19 webpage.](#) Be advised that the process by HSE in securing supplies is being ramped up and the need to be prudent in placing orders at this time and no requirement to stockpile at this time.

Dedicated recruitment portal arriving in coming days – we need your HR emails!

We’ve received a phenomenal response to the recruitment drive we launched St Patrick’s Day. Our message was for people who had lost their jobs and felt they could fulfil a role in an NHI Member home to get in contact with us. Hundreds of CVs from across the country have been submitted to NHI. To support interested applicants, NHI is rolling out a dedicated recruitment portal in the coming days. This will allow applicants upload their CVs online and identify with the nursing homes in their locality. This will support you in receiving applications from candidates. We advise, while applications may present for roles that do not require filling, Members have informed NHI they are looking to be flexible in their staffing arrangements during the emergency that presents.

[We now need the relevant HR contact for each nursing home and ask you one minute to complete this survey.](#)

Thanks to Members for their engagement with NHI in this regard and we ask you continue to keep us updated.

Yours,

Tadhg Daly,

Chief Executive Officer



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Our mailing address is:

info@nhi.ie

Our contact number is:

+353 (0)1 4699800

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Adam Fleming

From: Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>
Sent: Thursday 19 March 2020 15:32 ✓
To: simon.harris@oireachtas.ie
Cc: jim.daly@oir.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
Subject: Representation from NHI seeking urgent meeting re Covid-19
Attachments: 19 March 2020 LT Minister Harris urgent meeting conf call request.pdf

Dear Minister Harris,
Please find attached representation from Nursing Homes Ireland requesting urgent meeting/conference call to discuss important issues facing the private and voluntary nursing home sector during this public health emergency. You will be aware we are in constant communication with Department of Health officials, HSE and NPHE and are committed to providing leadership for 400+ private and voluntary nursing homes providing care to 25,000+ people during this pandemic.

Thank you in advance,
Michael McGlynn on behalf of Tadhg Daly, CEO Nursing Homes Ireland

Michael McGlynn

Michael McGlynn
Communications & Research Executive
e. michael@nhi.ie
dd. 01 4699806
m. 087 9082970

Nursing Homes Ireland
2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
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e. info@nhi.ie
nhi.ie



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Nursing Homes Ireland
2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. (01) 469 9800 | e. info@nhilie | nhilie

**Minister Simon Harris TD,
Department of Health,
Block 1,
Miesian Plaza,
50 – 58 Lower Baggot Street,
Dublin D02 XW14.**

19th March 2020

Re: Urgent meeting/ conference call request

Dear Minister Harris,

I am writing to you to request an urgent meeting/conference call with you to discuss important issues facing the private and voluntary nursing home sector during this crisis. You will be aware we are in constant communication with Department of Health officials, HSE and NPHE.

NHI members provide care in a 'home from home' for 25,000+ residents nationwide who are the most vulnerable in our society and this vulnerability is even heightened as we head further in to this COVID 19 crisis.

As you are aware, NHI and our member nursing homes recognise the gravity of the COVID 19 pandemic and remain committed to fully support the Government, our HSE colleagues and civic society in the national response to this crisis.

We are committed to support our members and residents and provide leadership in this challenging and evolving environment in partnership with all stakeholders.

Private and voluntary nursing homes are an effective functioning part of the Irish health system, with a vital role to play in responding to this current crisis. In order to do so, it is necessary for full engagement with the sector to allay any valid concerns and to cooperate fully to minimise the risk to our residents and staff.

We therefore respectfully request immediate engagement to ensure NHI can continue to provide high quality, safe care to the 25,000 residents in the care of our members.

I look forward to hearing from you by return.

Yours sincerely



Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive Officer

**cc Minister Jim Daly, Minister of State with special responsibility for Mental Health
and Older People**
Ms Kathleen McLellan, Assistant Secretary, Department of Health

43

From: Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie
Sent: Wednesday 20 May 2020 08:04
To: Adam Fleming
Subject: Fw: Representation from NHI seeking urgent meeting re Covid-19
Attachments: pic15724.jpg; pic11478.jpg; 19 March 2020 LT Minister Harris urgent meeting conf call request.pdf

Kind regards
Pádraig

—
Pádraig Kelly
Private Secretary to the Minister for Mental Health and Older People __ An Roinn Sláinte Department of Health __
Department of Health, Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50-58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2, D02 XW14 An Roinn Sláinte, Bloc
1, Plaza Míseach, Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarac, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 XW14 __
M +353 (0)87 233 1746 T +353 (0)1 635 4717
health.gov.ie

----- Forwarded by Padraig Kelly/SLAINTE on 20/05/2020 08:03 -----

From: Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>
To: "ministerdaly_office@health.gov.ie"
<ministerdaly_office@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie" <Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie>
Date: 19/03/2020 15:42
Subject:Representation from NHI seeking urgent meeting re Covid-19

Dear Minister Daly and Padraig,
Please find attached representations to Minister Harris from NHI requesting meeting regarding Covid-19 issues
presenting for the private and voluntary nursing home sector.

Kind Regards,
Michael

Michael McGlynn

—
Michael McGlynn
Communications & Research Executive
e. michael@nhi.ie
dd. 01 4699806
m. 087 9082970

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Cc: jim.daly@oir.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
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Thank you in advance,
Michael McGlynn on behalf of Tadhg Daly, CEO Nursing Homes Ireland

Michael McGlynn

—
Michael McGlynn
Communications & Research Executive
e. michael@nhi.ie
dd. 01 4699806
m. 087 9082970

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(See attached file: 19 March 2020 LT Minister Harris urgent meeting conf call request.pdf)



Nursing Homes Ireland
2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. (01) 469 9800 | e. info@nhi.ie | nhi.ie

**Minister Simon Harris TD,
Department of Health,
Block 1,
Miesian Plaza,
50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street,
Dublin D02 XW14.**

19th March 2020

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As you are aware, NHI and our member nursing homes recognise the gravity of the COVID 19 pandemic and remain committed to fully support the Government, our HSE colleagues and civic society in the national response to this crisis.

We are committed to support our members and residents and provide leadership in this challenging and evolving environment in partnership with all stakeholders.

Private and voluntary nursing homes are an effective functioning part of the Irish health system, with a vital role to play in responding to this current crisis. In order to do so, it is necessary for full engagement with the sector to allay any valid concerns and to cooperate fully to minimise the risk to our residents and staff.

We therefore respectfully request immediate engagement to ensure NHI can continue to provide high quality, safe care to the 25,000 residents in the care of our members.

I look forward to hearing from you by return.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tadhg Daly', written in a cursive style.

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive Officer

**cc Minister Jim Daly, Minister of State with special responsibility for Mental Health
and Older People**
Ms Kathleen McLellan, Assistant Secretary, Department of Health

44

From: Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie
Sent: Wednesday 20 May 2020 08:04
To: Adam Fleming
Subject: Fw: Representation from NHI seeking urgent meeting re Covid-19
Attachments: pic19169.jpg; pic15724.jpg; pic11478.jpg

Kind regards
Pádraig

—
Pádraig Kelly
Private Secretary to the Minister for Mental Health and Older People __ An Roinn Sláinte Department of Health __
Department of Health, Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50-58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2, D02 XW14 An Roinn Sláinte, Bloc
1, Plaza Míseach, Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarac, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 XW14 __
A +353 (0)87 233 1746 T +353 (0)1 635 4717
health.gov.ie

----- Forwarded by Padraig Kelly/SLAINTE on 20/05/2020 08:03 -----

From: "Michael McGlynn" <Michael@nhi.ie>
To: "Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie" <Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie>
Date: 20/03/2020 08:50
Subject: RE: Representation from NHI seeking urgent meeting re Covid-19

Thank you Padraig

Michael McGlynn

—
Michael McGlynn
Communications & Research Executive
e. michael@nhi.ie
d. 01 4699806
m. 087 9082970

(Embedded image moved to file: pic19169.jpg)Email Signature **DISCLAIMER** This message may contain confidential information and is intended for the intended email recipient only. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or action taken based on this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please advise NHI by return email and delete this email from your system. You should not retain, copy, or use this email for any purpose other than that which it is intended for, nor disclose all or any part of its content to any other person unless otherwise specified by the email sender. NHI does not accept responsibility for changes made to this message after it was sent. Views expressed may not necessarily represent NHI's views. NHI members are advised information is issued specific for NHI membership and you are asked not to disclose the content of this mailing with other parties.

From: Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie <Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie>

Sent: Thursday 19 March 2020 16:28

To: Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>

Subject: Re: Representation from NHI seeking urgent meeting re Covid-19

Dear Michael

I've directed this request to Minister Harris' office for direct reply to you.

Kind regards

Pádraig

Pádraig Kelly

Private Secretary to the Minister for Mental Health and Older People __ An Roinn Sláinte Department of Health __
Department of Health, Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50-58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2, D02 XW14 An Roinn Sláinte, Bloc
1, Plaza Míseach, Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarac, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 XW14 __
M +353 (0)87 233 1746 T +353 (0)1 635 4717
health.gov.ie

From: Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>

To: "ministerdaly_office@health.gov.ie" <

ministerdaly_office@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie" <Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie>

Date: 19/03/2020 15:42

Subject: Representation from NHI seeking urgent meeting re Covid-19

Dear Minister Daly and Padraig,

Please find attached representations to Minister Harris from NHI requesting meeting regarding Covid-19 issues presenting for the private and voluntary nursing home sector.

Kind Regards,

Michael

Michael McGlynn

Michael McGlynn

Communications & Research Executive

e. michael@nhi.ie

dd. 01 4699806

m. 087 9082970

(Embedded image moved to file: pic15724.jpg)Email Signature DISCLAIMER This message may contain confidential information and is intended for the intended email recipient only. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or action taken based on this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please advise NHI by return email and delete this email from your system. You should not retain, copy, or use this email for any purpose other than that which it is intended for, nor disclose all or any part of its content to any other person unless otherwise specified by the email sender. NHI does not accept responsibility for changes made to this message after it was sent. Views expressed may not necessarily

represent NHI's views. NHI members are advised information is issued specific for NHI membership and you are asked not to disclose the content of this mailing with other parties.

From: Michael McGlynn
Sent: Thursday 19 March 2020 15:32
To: simon.harris@oireachtas.ie
Cc: jim.daly@oir.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
Subject: Representation from NHI seeking urgent meeting re Covid-19

Dear Minister Harris,
Please find attached representation from Nursing Homes Ireland requesting urgent meeting/conference call to discuss important issues facing the private and voluntary nursing home sector during this public health emergency. You will be aware we are in constant communication with Department of Health officials, HSE and NPHE and are committed to providing leadership for 400+ private and voluntary nursing homes providing care to 25,000+ people during this pandemic.

Thank you in advance,
Michael McGlynn on behalf of Tadhg Daly, CEO Nursing Homes Ireland

Michael McGlynn

Michael McGlynn
Communications & Research Executive
e. michael@nhi.ie
dd. 01 4699806
m. 087 9082970

(Embedded image moved to file: pic11478.jpg)Email Signature DISCLAIMER This message may contain confidential information and is intended for the intended email recipient only. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, copying, distribution or action taken based on this information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please advise NHI by return email and delete this email from your system. You should not retain, copy, or use this email for any purpose other than that which it is intended for, nor disclose all or any part of its content to any other person unless otherwise specified by the email sender. NHI does not accept responsibility for changes made to this message after it was sent. Views expressed may not necessarily represent NHI's views. NHI members are advised information is issued specific for NHI membership and you are asked not to disclose the content of this mailing with other parties.

[attachment "19 March 2020 LT Minister Harris urgent meeting conf call request.pdf" deleted by Padraig Kelly/SLAINTE]

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45

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Friday 20 March 2020 08:17
To: Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie
Cc: Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie; Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie; Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie; Fiona Kenny
Subject: RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Good morning Niall,

Thank you for your call yesterday afternoon and your subsequent email. As per your request I can confirm that the nursing home that is currently managing a Covid19 outbreak have agreed to your request to participate in conference call this afternoon at 3.30pm to ensure the Dept gets an up to date perspective from the frontline on the challenges and the supports required for the nursing home sector as part of the national effort.

Can you provide dial in details and I will engage with the nursing home as requested.

I will speak with you again this morning.

Thanks
Tadhg



RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector
Tadhg Daly

to:

Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie

20/03/2020 09:23

Cc:

"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie", "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie",

"Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie", "Fiona Kenny"

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>,

"Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie" <Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>,

"Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>, "Fiona Kenny"

<ca@nhi.ie>

Dear Niall,

Thank you for your call and subsequent email. I note that the Department of Health has established a working group on the nursing home sector as a sub-committee of the NPHEP Vulnerable Persons committee without any representative from the main provider of such care.

As you will be aware from our conversation I quite frankly am appalled at the decision of the Dept to proceed to establish a working group on nursing homes and exclude representation of the majority provider of residential care of older persons.

To say that the decision to establish a group and exclude NHI beggars belief given that the sector provides care in a 'home from home' to 25,000 residents. I request immediate review of this decision.

The private and voluntary sector and NHI remains committed to high quality safe care with the residents at the centre of our activity.

There are a significant number of clarifications needed from you as we navigate the unprecedented challenges.

As per my earlier email I can confirm that the individual nursing homes with confirmed cases of residents positive with Covid19 are committed to engage with the Dept to inform and articulate the challenges presented and the solutions required.

Best regards,
Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive
e. tdaly@nhi.ie
p. 01/4699800
m. 087/2651934

Nursing Homes Ireland

nhi

2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K298.
t. 01-469 0000
e. info@nhi.ie
nhi.ie

NHI Care Awards 2020
in association with Homecare Medical
Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie
e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie
t. (01) 296 9394

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From: Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 20 March 2020 01:31
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie; Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie; Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie
Subject: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Dear Tadhg,

Many thanks for the conversation today. I committed to following up in writing with you in the context of the newly established short-life inter-agency working group on the nursing home sector with regard to Covid-19.

As discussed, the Department through our ongoing engagements with NHI and with key health agencies, recognise the role of the nursing homes sector in relation to the response to Covid-19 and the heightened pressures faced across our systems as a result of managing the impacts of the situation we are facing.

In that context, these issues were discussed at the most recent meeting (Wednesday 18th March) of the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) Subgroup on Vulnerable People. The Subgroup requested that a short-life inter-agency working group be established to report on nursing homes to the Subgroup. The Working Group was immediately established and held its first meeting today, 19th March. I hope to be in a position to share with you the Terms of Reference of the Group tomorrow, but broadly, I expect that the Group will be seeking to:

Identify and report on:

the issues and pressures facing the sector in the wake of Covid-19;

the role of the sector in contributing towards the response to Covid-19;

and to propose any recommendations how to assist in the sector in its capacity to respond to and manage those pressures;

It will be a matter for the NPHE subgroup to consider the Working Group's report and where appropriate/necessary, the NPHE to consider issues or next steps, if any, arising.

The Department and Health Agencies are represented on the group as follows:

Department of Health (Chair)

- Older Persons Services
- Primary Care
- Finance
- Offices of the CNO and CMO
- Acute Hospitals
- Scheduled and Unscheduled Care Performance

Health Service Executive

- Older Persons Services
- Primary Care
- Clinical (Office of Nursing & Midwifery Services Director and National Clinical Lead for Older Persons (or nominee))

NTPF

HIQA

As discussed, in the time available to us to move forward and progress the work of the group as quickly as possible we would like to engage with the nursing homes sector as follows:

1. The group would be very happy to consider any written submission on the issues from NHI (note: that the issues raised by NHI in recent days and weeks have been provided to the Group for consideration), and I formally invite you do so at your earliest convenience.
2. We would also like to engage directly with a nursing that is presently managing a Covid outbreak so as to get a direct frontline perspective from the sector on the issues arising, challenges, what has worked well and views on how things could be improved, particularly in engagement with statutory authorities and support.

I want to take the opportunity to acknowledge your positive response to this request and your offer to facilitate this engagement which I think will be highly valuable.

In keeping with social distancing guidance, the Group is endeavoring to conduct as much of its business as possible via teleconference.

The Group is due to meet again tomorrow, Friday, 20th. We have, unfortunately, experienced some significant technical difficulties with regard to teleconferencing today which are yet to be resolved. This is being worked on and we hope to be able to proceed with the meeting as scheduled. If possible, acknowledging the pressures that the nursing home is facing at this time, it would be great if the nursing home would be available to engage with the working group for approximately 30 minutes from about 15.30. I am afraid this will be subject to resolving the above mentioned technical issues. I or one of my team will be in further contact as early as possible in the morning in this regard. In the event that the meeting cannot proceed as planned, or in the event that the nursing home is not available to participate tomorrow, we can aim to reschedule the engagement for early next week.

Regards and thanks

Niall

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RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Dave Walsh to: Tadhg Daly

20/03/2020 14:35

Cc: "Fiona Kenny", "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie",
"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie",
"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie", [redacted]

From: Dave Walsh/SLAINTE
To: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie"
<Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>, [redacted]
"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie"

Tadhg

hope to confirm dial in details soon.

also representatives on WG from DoH / HSE / NTPF and HIQA will be on line

Dave Walsh
Services for Older People

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

T +353 (0)1 635 4518
health.gov.ie

"Tadhg Daly" Hi Dave, Indeed hectic and challenges times. Ne...

20/03/2020 13:37:29

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Dave Walsh@health.gov.ie" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie" <Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>,
"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"
<Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, [redacted]
Date: 20/03/2020 13:37
Subject: RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Hi Dave,
Indeed hectic and challenges times. Need for collaboration even greater than ever.

On the call;

- [redacted]
- [redacted]
- Tadhg Daly tdaly@nhi.ie

Can you also confirm the participants in the meeting.

You are free to use **MS Teams** conf call if you require? We used our call facility this morning with your colleagues in the HR in your Dept. Please advise

Thanks
Tadhg

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 20 March 2020 12:46
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@health.gov.ie>; Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie; Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie;
Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie
Subject: RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Good afternoon Tadhg, hope you are keeping well. Its been a hectic couple of weeks since we last chatted.

Many thanks for facilitating this.

As you know we are experiencing some technical issues with teleconferencing and capacity. As such I'm not able to forward on the dial in details at the moment, but I will as soon as I can.....who do I need to forward these details onto and who will be participating in call?

Dave

Dave Walsh
Services for Older People

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14

Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

T+353 (0)1 635 4518
health.gov.ie

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@health.gov.ie>
To: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>

"Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie" <Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>,
"Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>, Fiona
Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>

Date: 20/03/2020 08:19

Subject: RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Good morning Niall,

Thank you for your call yesterday afternoon and your subsequent email.
As per your request I can confirm that the nursing home that is currently managing a Covid19
outbreak have agreed to your request to participate in conference call this afternoon at 3.30pm to
ensure the Dept gets an up to date perspective from the frontline on the challenges and the
supports required for the nursing home sector as part of the national effort.

Can you provide dial in details and I will engage with the nursing home as requested.

I will speak with you again this morning.

Thanks
Tadhg

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RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Dave Walsh to: Tadhg Daly

20/03/2020 15:26

Cc: "Fiona Kenny", "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie",
"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie",
"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie", [REDACTED]

From: Dave Walsh/SLAINTE
To: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie"
<Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>, [REDACTED],
"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie"

Hi Tadhg

can you dial in now?

details

number
01 5530121

passcode
121243#

Dave

Dave Walsh
Services for Older People

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

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health.gov.ie

"Tadhg Daly"

Hi Dave, Indeed hectic and challenges times. Ne...

20/03/2020 13:37:29

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Dave Walsh@health.gov.ie" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie" <Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>,
"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"
<Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, [REDACTED]

Date: 20/03/2020 13:37
Subject: RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Hi Dave,
Indeed hectic and challenges times. Need for collaboration even greater than ever.

On the call;

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- Tadhg Daly tdaly@nhi.ie

Can you also confirm the participants in the [REDACTED]

You are free to use [REDACTED] conf call if you require? We used our call facility this morning with your colleagues in the HR in your Dept. Please advise

Thanks
Tadhg

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 20 March 2020 12:46
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie; Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie;
Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie
Subject: RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Good afternoon Tadhg, hope you are keeping well. Its been a hectic couple of weeks since we last chatted.

Many thanks for facilitating this.

As you know we are experiencing some technical issues with teleconferencing and capacity. As such I'm not able to forward on the dial in details at the moment, but I will as soon as I can.....who do I need to forward these details onto and who will be participating in call?

Dave

Dave Walsh
Services for Older People

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath,
D02 XW14

Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baginbun Road, Dublin, D02 XW14

T+353 (0)1 635 4518

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From: "Young Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>"
To: "Niall Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>,
"Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie" <Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>,
"Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>, Fiona
Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: 20/03/2020 08:19
Subject: RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Good morning Niall,

Thank you for your call yesterday afternoon and your subsequent email.
As per your request I can confirm that the nursing home that is currently managing a Covid19 outbreak have agreed to your request to participate in conference call this afternoon at 3.30pm to ensure the Dept gets an up to date perspective from the frontline on the challenges and the supports required for the nursing home sector as part of the national effort.

Can you provide dial in details and I will engage with the nursing home as requested.

I will speak with you again this morning.

Thanks
Tadhg

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Vulnerable Persons Subgroup - Working Group on the Nursing Home Sector

CV19_NursingHomes WorkingGroup to: Tadhg Daly 20/03/2020 17:58
Sent by: Dave Walsh
Cc: Niall Redmond, Karl Duff

From: CV19_NursingHomes WorkingGroup/SLAINTE
To: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Niall Redmond/SLAINTE@SLAINTE, Karl Duff/SLAINTE@SLAINTE
Sent by: Dave Walsh/SLAINTE

Dear Tadhg,

Many thanks for facilitating that call this afternoon.

Before and during the presentation we were pulling together some questions that I hope you could help inform our considerations.

We would be grateful if you could assist in clarifying the existing supply chains as they currently function and how they can be most efficiently managed and supported during this period as well as identifying the new and additional resource requirements, we would be grateful if you could please provide any information in relation to;

1. Details of the existing supply chains for residential units in Ireland in terms of supply of equipment/ medicines and medical devices including procurement of items such as fluids, O2 etc.
2. Have the suppliers in the existing supply chains been made aware of the expected increase and change in demand, including pharmacies and wholesalers and including notifying them of the additional items that may be required in light of treating Covid-19 patients in nursing homes.
3. Details of any forecasting exercises that have been done in relation to expected demand for equipment /consumables/services (cleaning/deep cleaning)/ medicines / medical devices and volumes expected.
4. Details of any direct engagement with HSE procurement that has been initiated by the sector to date.
5. In light of Covid-19 patients being treated in the nursing home, will the additional items required as a result of this be procured via the usual supply pathways or what consideration has there been as to how these items will be sourced. Whether any alternative pathways to the usual supply chains / procurement processes have been explored by the sector to date and details of these.

Regards

Dave

50



Covid-19 Update: Prioritisation of testing & palliative prescribing

Tadhg Daly

to:

Fiona Kenny

21/03/2020 11:07

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>

Security:

To ensure privacy, images from remote sites were prevented from downloading. Show Images

[View this email in your browser](#)

Dear Member,

This morning we are issuing important guidance:

- **Prioritisation of Health Care Professionals for COVID 19 Testing**
- **Anticipatory Prescribing in the Last Hours or Days of Life**

Prioritisation of Health Care Professionals for COVID 19 Testing

This medical directorate has been issued to the National Ambulance Service by the HSE and has been provided to NHI for circulation to nursing homes. It states: "Health care workers may require COVID19 testing to be in a position to return to patient care duties. These important health staff need to be prioritised over other candidates for testing. A negative test will allow them to return to work quickly." [Read the directorate here.](#)

Anticipatory Prescribing in the Last Hours or Days of Life

This HSE guidance applies for a patient in the last hours of days of life, informing it is helpful if 'anticipatory medicine' is administered for symptom

control at end-of-life. [Download the guidance here.](#)

It also advises for more detailed guidance you can visit <https://www.palliativecareguidelines.scot.nhs.uk>.

It should be noted: "Adherence to guideline recommendations will not ensure a successful outcome in every case. It is the responsibility of all professionals to exercise clinical judgement in the management of individual patients. Palliative care specialists occasionally prescribe or recommend other drugs, doses or drug combinations."

Yours,
Michael McGlynn,
Communications & Research Executive

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FW: COVID-19 Protocol - Release of Bodies from Nursing Homes
Tadhg Daly

to:

NCAGL Older Persons, Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy), olderpeople.operations@hse.ie
21/03/2020 18:06

Cc:

"Tuohy, Sandra", "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie", "Lang, Deirdre"

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "NCAGL Older Persons" <ncagl.olderpersons@hse.ie>, "Older People Strategy (Michael Fitzgerald - A.N.D.Older People & Palliative Care Strategy)"

<olderpeople.strategy@hse.ie>, "olderpeople.operations@hse.ie"

<olderpeople.operations@hse.ie>

Cc: "Tuohy, Sandra" <sandra.tuohy@hse.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"

<Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Lang, Deirdre" <Deirdre.Lang@hse.ie>

History: This message has been forwarded.

Good afternoon all,

See below from Dublin coroner's office.

The policy is that each nursing home death must remain at the nursing home until the treating doctor discusses the case with this Office during office hours or directly with the Coroner out-of-hours.

I have requested contact details particularly the out of hours contact before we issue as requested by the coroner.

Thanks
Tadhg

From: Noel X. Hughes <NXHughes@justice.ie>

Sent: Saturday 21 March 2020 16:30

To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

Subject: COVID-19 Protocol - Release of Bodies from Nursing Homes

Dear Tadhg,

Thank you for taking my call today. As a result of evolving issues arising in relation to the COVID-19 Virus pandemic, the Dublin District Coroner, Dr. Myra Cullinane, is altering the manner in which deaths are reported to the Coroner in the Dublin District.

Due to the COVID-19 Virus outbreak, the practice of releasing remains to the funeral director prior to the discussion with the Coroner's Office is suspended. Each nursing home death must remain at the nursing home until the treating doctor discusses the case with this Office during office hours or directly with the Coroner out-of-hours.

I should appreciate if you would communicate this temporary alteration in practice to all nursing homes and long-stay units in the Dublin District with immediate effect. We will monitor developments, particularly in relation to the number of deaths occurring, and if any further amendments to this direction are required we will contact you. Should any issues arise, please do not hesitate to contact this Office.

Thank you so much for your kind assistance with this urgent matter.

Best Wishes,

Noel Hughes

—
Noel Hughes
Manager | Dublin District Coroner's Court

—
An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt agus Comhionannais
Department of Justice and Equality

—
Oifig Cróinéara Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath, Sráid an Stórais, Baile Átha Cliath 1
Dublin Coroner's Office, Store Street, Dublin 1

—
T +353 (0)1 874 3006 +353 (0)1 874 6684 F +353 (0)1 874 2840
E nxhughes@justice.ie W www.coroners.ie

.....
Is le haghaidh an duine nó an eintitis ar a bhfuil sí dírithe, agus le haghaidh an duine nó an eintitis sin amháin, a bheartaítear an fhaisnéis a tarchuireadh agus féadfaidh sé go bhfuil ábhar faoi rún agus/nó faoi phribhléid inti. Toirmisctear aon athbhreithniú, atarchur nó leathadh a dhéanamh ar an bhfaisnéis seo, aon úsáid eile a bhaint aisti nó aon ghníomh a dhéanamh ar a hiontaoibh, ag daoine nó ag eintitis seachas an faighteoir beartaithe. Má fuair tú é seo trí dhearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir, le do thoil, agus scríos an t-ábhar as aon ríomhaire. Is é beartas na Roinne Dlí agus Cirt agus Comhionannais, na nOifigí agus na nGníomhaireachtaí a úsáideann seirbhísí TF na Roinne seoladh ábhair cholúil a dhíchheadú. Más rud é go measann tú gur ábhar colúil atá san ábhar atá sa teachtaireacht seo is ceart duit dul i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir láithreach agus le mailminder@justice.ie chomh maith.

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53



RE: Vulnerable Persons Subgroup - Working Group on the Nursing Home Sector
Tadhg Daly

to:

CV19NursingHomesWorkingGroup@health.gov.ie

23/03/2020 19:55

Cc:

"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie", "Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie", Fiona Kenny

Hide Details

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "CV19NursingHomesWorkingGroup@health.gov.ie"

<CV19NursingHomesWorkingGroup@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>,

"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>, Fiona Kenny <ca@nhi.ie>

Good evening Dave,

Apologies for delay in coming back to you but as you will appreciate an exceptional time. I left a voice message for you earlier.

As an organisation with a broad membership of individual providers we don't capture the detailed data that you outline below.

I can confirm that there are differing levels of stocks and different sources however at this stage most if not all supplies are exhausted.

The issue for nursing homes is that pretty much all suppliers (existing and new) have informed NHI and individual members that all supplies are being directed to the HSE.

I can confirm that we have received confirmation that adequate supplies of food and provision will be maintained through NHI group purchasing scheme. Similarly pharmacy are reporting no immediate concern. See below in red responses.

Call me if you require any clarification.

Thanks

Tadhg

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie> On Behalf Of

CV19NursingHomesWorkingGroup@health.gov.ie

Sent: Friday 20 March 2020 17:58

To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>

Cc: Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie

Subject: Vulnerable Persons Subgroup - Working Group on the Nursing Home Sector

Dear Tadhg,

Many thanks for facilitating that call this afternoon.

Before and during the presentation we were pulling together some questions that I hope you could help inform our considerations.

We would be grateful if you could assist in clarifying the existing supply chains as they currently function and

how they can be most efficiently managed and supported during this period as well as identifying the new and additional resource requirements, we would be grateful if you could please provide any information in relation to;

1. Details of the existing supply chains for residential units in Ireland in terms of supply of equipment/ medicines and medical devices including procurement of items such as fluids, O2 etc. There are a myriad of suppliers including Homecare Medical, BOC gases etc
2. Have the suppliers in the existing supply chains been made aware of the expected increase and change in demand, including pharmacies and wholesalers and including notifying them of the additional items that may be required in light of treating Covia-19 patients in nursing homes. YES
3. Details of any forecasting exercises that have been done in relation to expected demand for equipment /consumables/services (cleaning/deep cleaning)/ medicines / medical devices and volumes expected. Individual and through HSE
4. Details of any direct engagement with HSE procurement that has been initiated by the sector to date. Regular communication with HSE and we have circulated links to HBS and HSE procurement
5. In light of Covid-19 patients being treated in the nursing home, will the additional items required as a result of this be procured via the usual supply pathways or what consideration has there been as to how these items will be sourced. Whether any alternative pathways to the usual supply chains / procurement processes have been explored by the sector to date and details of these. Given the nature of the supplies and difficulty in supply chain we have been assured by HSE that all nursing homes will be provided from the stocks secured by HSE

Regards

Dave

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54



New website to support NHI Members recruit during Covid-19

Tadhg Daly

to:

Fiona Kenny

24/03/2020 15:17

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Fiona Kenny" <ca@nhi.ie>

[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear Member,

We appreciate the strain our members our under at present in terms of recruiting staff and accordingly maintaining optimum care standards. You are likely aware on St Patrick's Day we issued a public appeal calling on people who had recently

become unemployed, particularly those in the hospitality and retail sectors, to inform us of their availability to fill roles in NHI Member homes. [Read further here](#).

Over 650 applications were received directly by NHI. These applicants have been re-directed - asking them to re-apply via the portal so that they can apply to particular NHI Members or to inform of the region of their choice.

We are announcing we are now live with a new recruitment portal that is specifically dedicated for NHI Members. The website enables applicants to stream their application directly to you. Each applicant is afforded opportunity on the website to pick the NHI Member / Members in their locality, inform of their expertise and upload their CV. You will be notified of every applicant that expresses an interest in working in your home.

Visit the website now: <https://nhirecruitment.ie/>

We hope this portal, which is unique to supporting NHI Members, will assist you during these challenging times.

The launch of the website will be communicated to media and we encourage nursing homes to promote it on your communication channels – web and social media – so you can allow your audience to submit applications for roles that may require filling in your nursing home.

Kind Regards

Bernie Caren

Recruitment and Employee Relations Specialist

087 6855563



FacebookTwitterLinkedInWebsite

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Our mailing address is:

info@nhi.ie

Our contact number is:

+353 (0)1 4699800

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55



FW: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and voluntary nursing home sector

Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie

24/03/2020 18:39

Cc:

"Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>

1 Attachment



NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Funding to Maintain Service Continuity 24032020.pdf

Kathleen,

Thank you for your earlier call.

Please see below and attached to Minister Harris.

Thanks,

Tadhg

From: Tadhg Daly

Sent: Tuesday 24 March 2020 18:37

To: simon.harris@oireachtas.ie; 'Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie' <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie>

Subject: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and voluntary nursing home sector

Dear Minister,

I refer to engagement with officials in your Department and HSE on the challenges in the private and voluntary nursing home sector as we address the current Covid19.

Attached submission in respect of the additional funding required to maintain service continuity in our sector and once again take this opportunity to request immediate meeting to discuss.

Best regards,

Tadhg

Tadhg Daly

Chief Executive

e. tdaly@nhi.ie

p. 01/4699800

m. 087/2651934

Nursing Homes Ireland

nhi

2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. 01-469 9300
e. info@nhi.ie
nhi.ie

NHI Care Awards 2020

in association with Homecare Medical

Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie
e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie
t. (01) 296 9394

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Nursing Homes Ireland
2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. (01) 469 9800 | e. info@nhi.ie | nhi.ie

NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE

Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

There is an immediate requirement on the Government to formally designate the private and voluntary nursing home sector as a 'critical/frontline sector'

The Private and Voluntary sector must be "afforded the full resources of the State to ensure it can operate effectively" to care for 25,000 residents and play its role as a vital part of the health and social care service.

Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

There is an immediate requirement for a commitment by Government to provide HSE with additional funding for Fair Deal to maintain service continuity and meet the increased cost of care for nursing residents in meeting the care needs and addressing the challenges presented by Covid19.

The cost of such care increases by 50% of the current Fair Deal fee given the 'additionality' of costs incurred across the nursing home for example extra staffing (rates and numbers of both direct care and non-direct care staff/ equipment/ deep cleaning/ GP fees/ additional cleaning and activity staff/ additional administration staff engaging with families).

- There are substantial additional staff costs that each nursing home is incurring at the present time due to Covid19.
These additional costs of maintaining service continuity have substantially increased and will continue over the coming days/ weeks and months (including but not limited to).
 - Additional staff costs to care for residents with Covid19 as they will require 24/7 care and one to one care. The additional staff costs will include additional overtime.
 - Additional staff required to cover for staff tested positive and those in self isolation awaiting testing and test results

- Wage cost pressure to retain staff
 - Additional Recruitment costs for new staff required and to replace the staff who have migrated to the HSE and to cover the nursing home staff
 - Additional cleaning staff, staff hours and cleaning materials will be required.
 - Increased staff and staffing hours of activity coordinators
 - Increased administration staff ensuring residents and families remain connected and fully informed on residents
- Negative impact on occupancy levels and resultant reduced income with no new residents to a nursing home with positive Covid19 residents.
 - Supplies – members are experiencing increased costs of supplies of goods and services at a premium for current food and medical costs.

Immediate Requirement:

NHI requires confirmation of immediate additional increase in NHSS (Fair Deal) fees from HSE by 50% per resident per week to maintain service continuity in respect of all residents for an initial 4-month period – effective 1st March (backdated) – and reviewed as appropriate given the uncertainty.

Furthermore, in the event of a significant outbreak in an individual nursing home an enhanced support structure will be required to include (and not limited to) staffing, funding and PPE. This will be matter for agreement with the individual nursing home.

**Nursing Homes Ireland
24th March 2020**

Adam Fleming

56

From: Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie
Sent: Tuesday 24 March 2020 20:16
To: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Services_for_the_Elderly@health.gov.ie
Cc: Joanne_Lonergan@health.gov.ie; Sarah_Bardon@health.gov.ie
Subject: Fw: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and voluntary nursing home sector
Attachments: NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Funding to Maintain Service_Continuity 24032020.pdf

Hi Kathleen and all

Please see attached letter from Tadhg Daly, NHI, for your attention

Kind regards

Matthew

Matthew O'Gorman
Private Secretary
Minister Harris' Private Office

An Rólán Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

T +353 (0)1 635 4149
M +353 87 699 3579
Diary email - MinistersDiary@health.gov.ie

matthew_ogorman@health.gov.ie

— Forwarded by Matthew O'Gorman/SLAINTE on 24/03/2020 20:14 —

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "simon.harris@oireachtas.ie" <simon.harris@oireachtas.ie>, "Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie" <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie>
Date: 24/03/2020 18:37
Subject: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and voluntary nursing home sector

Dear Minister,

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Best regards,
Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive
e. tdaly@nhi.ie
p. 01/4699800
m. 087/2651934

Nursing Homes Ireland



2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
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NHI Care Awards 2020

in association with Homecare Medical

Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie

e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie

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(See attached file: NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Funding to Maintain Service Continuity 24032020.pdf)



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t. (01) 469 9800 | e. info@nhi.ie | nhi.ie

NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

There is an immediate requirement on the Government to formally designate the private and voluntary nursing home sector as a 'critical/frontline sector'

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**Nursing Homes Ireland
24th March 2020**


Re: Nursing home staffing
Gerry O'Brien to: Tadhg Daly

25/03/2020 19:38

 Bernie Caren, "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie",
 Cc: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie", "Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie",
 "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie"

 From: **Gerry O'Brien/SLAINTE**

 To: **Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>**

 Cc: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>, "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie"
 <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie"
 <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie"

 History: **This message has been forwarded.**
Good evening Tadhg

It is highly regrettable that situations have arisen regarding refusal of job offers and potential absenteeism - both arising from the rate of Government support available re COVID-19.

The Government's aim is to ensure that as many people as possible have an adequate income over this emergency period, and as such, the €350 per week is set as it represents approximately 75% of the normal wages of the sectors most affected by recent lay-offs. The country is in a national crisis and the interim measures that are being put in place reflect and respond to that situation.

Our colleagues in Department of Employment and Social Protection (DEASP) recognise that these measures may have an employment/unemployment impact, but they will be temporary. The increased rate of illness benefit payable in respect of a period of self-isolation/diagnosis re COVID-19 is payable for a maximum of 12 weeks only.

Regarding any concern that existing staff may leave, to qualify for the enhanced rate Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment, employees have to have been laid off by their employer as a consequence of the Covid-19 downturn. So if one of your members' employees chooses to leave employment, they will not get this enhanced rate. Similarly regarding the COVID related illness benefit, DEASP require certification and I do have faith in GPs in this regard.

The payments have been agreed by Government and are now in place for the next 12 weeks. Further queries in relation to their application can be addressed to DEASP directly.

Regards
Gerry

Gerry O'Brien
Principal Officer
People, Pay & Superannuation Unit
Resources Division

An Roinn Sláinte
 Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
 Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

T +353 (0)1 635 4235
www.health.gov.ie

Tadhg Daly

Gerry, Thank you for your earlier email confirmin...

25/03/2020 15:13:03

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>, "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>, "Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie" <Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie>
Date: 25/03/2020 15:13
Subject: Nursing home staffing

Gerry,

Thank you for your earlier email confirming that you are addressing this matter. We have had a significant number of queries on the latest Govt commitments and request that the Departments provide sector specific guidance for the nursing home sector.

Members are witnessing significant challenges in maintaining care services with front line staff with eg staff awaiting testing, staff with symptoms, staff awaiting results across our membership. As you are aware our members provide care for 25,000 residents in communities across Ireland directly employing in excess of 30,000 staff.

See also below communication from other member and we have had a number of emails on both the challenges in recruiting but now also in retaining staff at a time of national emergency.

*A as a follow on from last evening's increases and guidelines to the enhanced illness benefit, The Department of Social Protection has indicated to me this morning that the €350 payment (medically certified) applies to all full-time and part-time workers – hence if someone works only 10 hours a week and generally gets €101 (10.10*10) from us, they will be eligible to get €350 per week if absent due to Covid-19. Not a pro-rata basis. At the moment this applies to nearly 40% of our workforce.*

This I believe it will put a lot of our homes at grave risk – I know we have to have faith in the GP's to do the right thing, but past experiences is that they provide certs on a willy nilly basis.

Thanks
Tadhg

From: gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 25 March 2020 10:20
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie;
Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie; Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: FW: [REDACTED]

Good morning Tadhg

Kathleen referred your query last evening on to me, we are engaging with the Department of Employment and Social Protection to understand better the new arrangements and any related parameters.

I hope you be able to respond to this and previous queries later today.

Kind regards

Gerry

Gerry O'Brien

Principal Officer

People, Pay & Superannuation Unit

Resources Division

—
An Roinn Sláinte

Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14

Block 1, Mieslan Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

—
T +353 (0)1 635 4235

www.health.gov.ie

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Kathleen MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Bernie Caren" <hradvice@nhi.ie>

Date: 25/03/2020 10:06

Subject: FW: [REDACTED]

Good morning Kathleen,

I refer to my text message last evening and thank you for response.

As discussed NHI has received numerous calls from members following the enhanced measures announced by Government yesterday. As you are aware there are significant recruitment challenges in the sector.

Members are reporting applications now withdrawn – see below as example with personal data redacted.

Can you review and revert on proposals to address.

Thanks,

Tadhg

From: Helen O'Regan <Helen.OREgan@havenbay.ie>

Sent: Wednesday 25 March 2020 09:12

To: info@nhi.ie

Subject: Application [REDACTED]

Hi Olivia

Please see attached email, name removed. Job offer issued to local person let go from hotel and because of government supports no longer prepared to take up the offer, this is what we now face.

Thanks,
Helen

To: HR <hr@[redacted]>
Subject: Re: Application [redacted]

Hi [redacted]

I hope you are well.

Unfortunately due to the developments with government yesterday regarding employment scheme I am unable to pursue employment with you.

Having discussed it with my wife it does not make sense for us financially. I have to put my family first in this situation.

I really do want to help and was sincere in my approach.

I am truly sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Kind regards

[redacted]

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Adam Fleming

From: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie
Sent: Wednesday 25 March 2020 16:13
To: Tadhg Daly
Cc: gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie; Bernie Caren; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: Nursing home staffing


Tadhg

We will come back to you on this.

Kind regards
 Sam

Samantha Kenny

People, Pay and Superannuation Unit (PPSU) | Resources Division | Department of Health | Block 1, Milesian Plaza | 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street | Dublin D02 XW14
 Direct Dial: 01 6354069 | Email: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie

 Tadhg Daly ---25/03/2020 15:13:03---Gerry, Thank you for your earlier email confirming that you are addressing this matter.

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
 To: "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>
 Cc: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>, "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>, "Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie" <Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie>
 Date: 25/03/2020 15:13
 Subject: Nursing home staffing

Gerry,

Thank you for your earlier email confirming that you are addressing this matter.

We have had a significant number of queries on the latest Govt commitments and request that the Departments provide sector specific guidance for the nursing home sector.

Members are witnessing significant challenges in maintaining care services with front line staff with eg staff awaiting testing, staff with symptoms, staff awaiting results across our membership.

As you are aware our members provide care for 25,000 residents in communities across Ireland directly employing in excess of 30,000 staff.

See also below communication from other member and we have had a number of emails on both the challenges in recruiting but now also in retaining staff at a time of national emergency.

*A as a follow on from last evening's increases and guidelines to the enhanced illness benefit, The Department of Social Protection has indicated to me this morning that the €350 payment (medically certified) applies to all full-time and part-time workers – hence if someone works only 10 hours a week and generally gets €101 (10.10*10) from us, they will be eligible to get €350 per week if absent due to Covid-19. Not a pro-rata basis. At the moment this applies to nearly 40% of our workforce.*

This I believe it will put a lot of our homes at grave risk – I know we have to have faith in the GP's to do the right thing, but past experiences is that they provide certs on a willy nilly basis.

Thanks
 Tadhg

From: gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 25 March 2020 10:20
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie; Paul_Howard@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: FW: [REDACTED]

Good morning Tadhg

Kathleen referred your query last evening on to me, we are engaging with the Department of Employment and Social Protection to understand better the new arrangements and any related parameters.

I hope you be able to respond to this and previous queries later today.

Kind regards

Gerry

Gerry O'Brien
Principal Officer
People, Pay & Superannuation Unit
Resources Division

—
An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

—
Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagáid Iochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

—
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From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>, "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>, "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>, "Bernie Caren" <hradvice@nhi.ie>
Date: 25/03/2020 10:06
Subject: FW: [REDACTED]

Good morning Kathleen,

I refer to my text message last evening and thank you for response.

As discussed NHI has received numerous calls from members following the enhanced measures announced by Government yesterday. As you are aware there are significant recruitment challenges in the sector. Members are reporting applications now withdrawn – see below as example with personal data redacted.

Can you review and revert on proposals to address.

Thanks,
Tadhg

From: Helen O'Regan <Helen.OREgan@havenbay.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 25 March 2020 09:12
To: info@nhi.ie
Subject: [REDACTED]

Hi Olivia

Please see attached email, name removed. Job offer issued to local person let go from hotel and because of government supports no longer prepared to take up the offer, this is what we now face.

Thanks,
Helen

To: HR <hr@h[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: Application to [REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well.

Unfortunately due to the developments with government yesterday regarding employment scheme I am unable to pursue employment with you.

Having discussed it with my wife it does not make sense for us financially. I have to put my family first in this situation.

I really do want to help and was sincere in my approach.

I am truly sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

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From: Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie
Sent: Wednesday 20 May 2020 08:04
To: Adam Fleming
Subject: Fw: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and voluntary nursing home sector
Attachments: pic22724.jpg

Kind regards
Pádraig

—
Pádraig Kelly
Private Secretary to the Minister for Mental Health and Older People __ An Roinn Sláinte Department of Health __
Department of Health, Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50-58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2, D02 XW14 An Roinn Sláinte, Bloc
1, Plaza Míseach, Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarac, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 XW14 __
M +353 (0)87 233 1746 T +353 (0)1 635 4717
health.gov.ie

----- Forwarded by Padraig Kelly/SLAINTE on 20/05/2020 08:04 -----

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie" <Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie>
Date: 25/03/2020 11:43
Subject: RE: FW: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and
voluntary nursing home sector

Thank you Pádraig,

Appreciate your prompt response.
Take care of yourself.

Best regards,
Tadhg

From: Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie <Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 25 March 2020 11:37
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Subject: Re: FW: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and voluntary nursing home sector

Dear Tadhg

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent correspondence which is currently receiving attention. A response will issue to you as soon as possible.

Kind regards
Pádraig

—

Pádraig Kelly

Private Secretary to the Minister for Mental Health and Older People __ An Roinn Sláinte Department of Health __
Department of Health, Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50-58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2, D02 XW14 An Roinn Sláinte, Bloc
1, Plaza Míseach, Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarac, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02 XW14 __
M +353 (0)87 233 1746 T +353 (0)1 635 4717
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From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie" <Padraig_Kelly@health.gov.ie>, "
ministerdaly_office@health.gov.ie" <ministerdaly_office@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "darren.hourihane@oireachtas.ie" <darren.hourihane@oireachtas.ie
>
Date: 25/03/2020 11:24
Subject: FW: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and
voluntary nursing home sector

Dear Minister Daly,

Attached NHI submission in respect of funding to maintain service continuity for residents in the private and
voluntary nursing home sector.

As per our recent calls we have had no response to our request to meet with Minister Harris which in inexplicable
given the fact that members provide care to 25,000 of our most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you,
Tadhg

From: Tadhg Daly
Sent: Tuesday 24 March 2020 18:37
To: simon.harris@oireachtas.ie; Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie
Subject: Maintaining Service Continuity in the private and voluntary nursing home sector

Dear Minister,

I refer to engagement with officials in your Department and HSE on the challenges in the private and voluntary
nursing home sector as we address the current Covid19.

Attached submission in respect of the additional funding required to maintain service continuity in our sector and
once again take this opportunity to request immediate meeting to discuss.

Best regards,
Tadhg

Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive
e. tdaly@nhi.ie
p. 01/4699800
m. 087/2651934

(Embedded image moved to file: pic22724.jpg)Email Signature NHI Care Awards 2020 in association with Homecare Medical Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie
e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie
t. (01) 296 9394

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[attachment "NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Funding to Maintain Service Continuity 24032020.pdf" deleted by Padraig Kelly/SLAINTE]

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Nursing Homes Ireland
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NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

There is an immediate requirement on the Government to formally designate the private and voluntary nursing home sector as a 'critical/frontline sector'

The Private and Voluntary sector must be "afforded the full resources of the State to ensure it can operate effectively" to care for 25,000 residents and play its role as a vital part of the health and social care service.

Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

There is an immediate requirement for a commitment by Government to provide HSE with additional funding for Fair Deal to maintain service continuity and meet the increased cost of care for nursing residents in meeting the care needs and addressing the challenges presented by Covid19.

The cost of such care increases by 50% of the current Fair Deal fee given the 'additionality' of costs incurred across the nursing home for example extra staffing (rates and numbers of both direct care and non-direct care staff/ equipment/ deep cleaning/ GP fees/ additional cleaning and activity staff/ additional administration staff engaging with families).

- There are substantial additional staff costs that each nursing home is incurring at the present time due to Covid19. These additional costs of maintaining service continuity have substantially increased and will continue over the coming days/ weeks and months (including but not limited to).
 - Additional staff costs to care for residents with Covid19 as they will require 24/7 care and one to one care. The additional staff costs will include additional overtime.
 - Additional staff required to cover for staff tested positive and those in self isolation awaiting testing and test results

- Wage cost pressure to retain staff
 - Additional Recruitment costs for new staff required and to replace the staff who have migrated to the HSE and to cover the nursing home staff
 - Additional cleaning staff, staff hours and cleaning materials will be required.
 - Increased staff and staffing hours of activity coordinators
 - Increased administration staff ensuring residents and families remain connected and fully informed on residents
- Negative impact on occupancy levels and resultant reduced income with no new residents to a nursing home with positive Covid19 residents.
 - Supplies – members are experiencing increased costs of supplies of goods and services at a premium for current food and medical costs.

Immediate Requirement:

NHI requires confirmation of immediate additional increase in NHSS (Fair Deal) fees from HSE by 50% per resident per week to maintain service continuity in respect of all residents for an initial 4-month period – effective 1st March (backdated) – and reviewed as appropriate given the uncertainty.

Furthermore, in the event of a significant outbreak in an individual nursing home an enhanced support structure will be required to include (and not limited to) staffing, funding and PPE. This will be matter for agreement with the individual nursing home.

**Nursing Homes Ireland
24th March 2020**



Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Tadhg Daly

to:

Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie

26/03/2020 16:40

Cc:

"Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie", "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie",
 "Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie", "Fiona Kenny", "Michael McGlynn",
 "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie"

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie> Sort List...

To: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>

Cc: "Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>,
 "Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie" <Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>,
 "Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>, "Fiona Kenny"
 <ea@nhi.ie>, "Michael McGlynn" <Michael@nhi.ie>,
 "Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie" <Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>

2 Attachments



NHI Submission to Inter-Agency Working Group on the Nursing Home Sector with regard to Covid-19.pdf



NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Funding to Maintain Service Continuity 24032020.pdf

Dear Niall,

I refer to our ongoing engagement and communications re Covid19 and the Nursing Home Sector

As a follow up to your email and our participation in the conference all with the inter-agency working group be established to report on nursing homes to the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) Subgroup on Vulnerable People I note that the issues raised by NHI in recent weeks have been provided to the Group for consideration.

As discussed please find attached NHI submission to the working group, together with our submission to Dept and HSE on funding to maintain service continuity and look forward to immediate engagement.

Best regards,
 Tadhg



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2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
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t. (01) 469 9800 | e. info@nhi.ie | nhi.ie

NHI Submission to Inter-Agency Working Group on the Nursing Home Sector with regard to Covid-19

There is an immediate requirement on the Government to formally designate the private and voluntary nursing home sector as a 'critical/frontline sector'. The private and voluntary sector must be "afforded the full resources of the State to ensure it can operate effectively" to care for 25,000 residents and play its role as a vital part of the health and social care service. We cannot countenance nursing homes not being appropriately supported by the State in providing specialised, round-the-clock care to thousands of people in our communities during this national health emergency.

Understandably, much of the Covid-19 discussion has been upon ensuring our acute hospitals have the capacity to meet the sustained challenges that will be presented by Covid-19. There is a requirement to also focus upon the capacity of the nursing home sector, with the private and voluntary sector providing 25,000 of the 30,000 beds in the system, to meet the unprecedented challenges for our residents presented by Covid-19.

We are concerned that not enough attention is being paid to the specific risks and issues that will arise for residents in public, private and voluntary nursing homes.

It is critical to realise these homes are ultimately dependent upon the funding derived through the State from the Nursing Home Support Scheme (Fair Deal) and the requirements now presenting go far beyond fees payable under the scheme. Continued resourcing of nursing homes through the 'traditional' Fair Deal fee is no longer sustainable.

Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

Attached NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE on requirement for Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity. There is an immediate requirement for a commitment by Government to additional funding for Fair Deal to meet the increased cost of care for nursing residents in meeting the care needs and addressing the challenges. Huge cost implications present for nursing homes from a staffing and logistical perspective in the management of Covid-19. The State has to recognise such in the provision of emergency funding to maintain the vital community services provided by nursing homes.

Staffing

Staffing pressures have escalated hugely within nursing homes across the country arising from Covid-19. We are faced with an unprecedented challenge in care of the older person and we cannot countenance the required staffing complement not being available within nursing homes to address the emergency presenting. The diminishment of our sector's workforce will threaten the ability of nursing homes to provide care during this health pandemic and this is something we must not countenance.

Priority Testing

Nursing home staff and residents require priority testing.

Members are witnessing significant challenges in maintaining care services with front line staff with eg staff awaiting testing, staff with symptoms, staff awaiting results across our membership. Nursing home staff are on the frontline in healthcare provision and priority testing for their healthcare workers must be prioritised.

Access to equipment – PPE/ Oxygen etc

Nursing homes are reporting limited and in some cases no availability of PPE, with many supplier stating HSE healthcare settings are being prioritised. The most vulnerable people are within nursing homes and access to sufficient supply of PPE is absolutely vital to protect their healthcare staff operating on the frontline and deter possible spread of Covid-19. The HSE must ensure an appropriate supply of equipment is allocated to private and voluntary nursing homes to ensure they are appropriately equipped to manage this unprecedented health emergency.

Required

- A single point of contact from HSE public health for all nursing homes with confirmed positive residents and staff
- Protocol and contingency plan from the HSE in the event of a significant outbreak with commitment to support the nursing home as appropriate
- Establish plans for mutual aid, including sharing of workforce and health professionals between private and voluntary providers and HSE primary and community health services, with deployment of volunteers where that is safe to do so.
- Plan for cases where isolated outbreaks occur, how best the HSE can support in recovery
-

- Support providers in planning around resilience, including plans to share resources locally in an outbreak of COVID-19. This should include workforce, including the deployment of volunteers where it is safe to do so, and where indemnity arrangements are in place
- Priority testing for nursing home staff as essential workers is an imperative.
- Priority testing for nursing home residents is imperative.
- The sector cannot countenance delays in priority testing for residents and staff that provide care for the most vulnerable.
- Commitment to provide all necessary supports including but not limited to PPE, Oxygen. Clear procedures or processes are required to ensure equipment can be sourced with immediacy (entailing out-of-hours).
- Commitment and funding of the required GP support. GPs must be supported to ensure they are available to meet the care needs of nursing home residents and staff, where presenting.
- Requirement of explicit written commitment that the HSE will not recruit staff from the private and voluntary sector. Loss of staff from private and voluntary nursing homes has huge implications for healthcare provision. This should not be countenanced when a health pandemic is presenting for nursing homes that are providing care to those most vulnerable. Migration of staff from private and voluntary nursing homes will prove counter productive, denuding nursing homes of the ability to fulfil their central role in meeting specialised healthcare needs within our communities and engaging collaboratively with acute hospitals and other healthcare providers to fulfil such.
- Commitment from HSE to make available to the nursing home sector potential staff who have applied for roles as part of the national 'on call for Ireland campaign' given the large numbers (reported 40,000) that have applied. The emergency presenting for 'manpower' within our health services is across our health services.
- Commitment from NTPF to engage as per the Act and continue to engage with Registered Providers, renew deeds of agreement and not 'roll over' on existing terms.
- Commitment of resources and support for the nursing home sector from Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection including Intreo and other state agencies in staff retention and recruitment.

Impact of current challenges

- Staffing – nursing homes are reporting that potential employees who have recently been made redundant and have been interviewed and offered roles with member nursing homes are no longer being prepared to accept their job offer in light of the government supports now being offered. Law of unintended consequences.
- The Department of Social Protection has indicated that the €350 payment (medically certified) applies to all full-time and part-time workers – hence if someone works only 10 hours a week and generally receives €110 - €150 , they will be eligible to get €350 per week if absent due to Covid-19. This is arising because payment is not being applied on a pro-rata basis. At the moment, this considerable anomaly applies to a significant element of the nursing home workforce and has significant potential to threaten healthcare delivery within nursing homes.
- Suppliers across the country are advising that they are not in a position to supply PPE and equipment as they state that they are prioritising HSE, with no supplies available for the private and voluntary sector.
- Reduced respite or short stay admissions are resulting in significant loss of funding that is vital for nursing homes in their day-to-day operations.
- Likely significant reduction in non Fair Deal residents/ private payers. Residents who are not funded under Fair Deal pay a weekly fee for care that mirrors the 'true cost of care' and in fact is cross subsidisation of the Fair Deal.
- Payment by families: Given that the NHSS is a co-payment scheme, the fact that large numbers are now unemployed as a result of Covid19 will negatively impact on the assessed family contribution to the Fair Deal as families unemployed may legitimately plead inability to pay. This will further exacerbate funding pressures.
- It will also directly affect the payment of amounts due under the contract for care for services expressly excluded under the Fair Deal, again with families pleading inability to pay.
- PAYE returns – Nursing Homes may now file their monthly P30 (PAYE/PRSI monthly returns) returns for February and March without making the actual payment of the liability due. The Revenue will not charge interest on these late payments and will keep all Tax Clearance Certificates active (members require to ensure the monthly NHSS payments). NHI requests that this mechanism stays in place for April, May and June and then reviewed.

To consider

- The national health emergency presents requirement for innovative thinking. This has been demonstrated by Government and it is required to constantly consider measures that can support our frontline health services in meeting this unprecedented challenge. Providing a temporary Covid19 additional tax free allowance to all nursing home employees would present significant State support for these critical workers and the vital role they are fulfilling within society during these challenging times. It can also further entice those who have become unemployed to assume important roles within our sector during these unprecedented times.

We remain committed to working with the Government, Department of Health and our colleagues in the health services during this extremely challenging time for our country.

Nursing Homes Ireland
25th March 2020

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Friday 27 March 2020 20:22
To: Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie
Cc: Fiona Kenny; Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie; Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Michael McGlynn; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Karen_McNamara@health.gov.ie
Subject: RE: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Hi Dave,

The issue is the supply of oxygen (oxygen tanks) and oxygen concentrators with significant challenges from suppliers similar to PPE

Thanks
Tadhg

-----Original Message-----

From: Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 27 March 2020 13:27
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>; Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie; Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie; Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie; Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>; Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie; Karen_McNamara@health.gov.ie
Subject: Re: Covid-19 and Nursing Homes Sector

Thanks Tadhg,

I acknowledge receipt of your e-mail and attachments and can confirm the submissions have been forwarded to the Group for consideration in its deliberations.

In your submission you refer to concerns re equipment-oxygen supplies and ppe's. While concerns re ppe's is well documented I'm trying to get under the hood with the oxygen supply. Have you any further intelligence from your members or could you elaborate please on the problem, how it has manifested etc? Is the issue specific to one supplier or is it more widespread? Similar question with providers-is it one or two providers experiencing difficulties or is it wider?

Regards

Dave Walsh
Services for Older People

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

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From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>,
"Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie" <Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie>,
"Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>, "Fiona
Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Michael McGlynn" <Michael@nhi.ie>,
"Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie"
<Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie>
Date: 26/03/2020 16:40
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Best regards,

Tadhg

[attachment "NHI Submission to Inter-Agency Working Group on the Nursing Home Sector with regard to Covid-19.pdf" deleted by Dave Walsh/SLAINTE] [attachment "NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Funding to Maintain Service Continuity 24032020.pdf" deleted by Dave Walsh/SLAINTE]

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NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

There is an immediate requirement on the Government to formally designate the private and voluntary nursing home sector as a 'critical/frontline sector'

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Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

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The cost of such care increases by 50% of the current Fair Deal fee given the 'additionality' of costs incurred across the nursing home for example extra staffing (rates and numbers of both direct care and non-direct care staff/ equipment/ deep cleaning/ GP fees/ additional cleaning and activity staff/ additional administration staff engaging with families).

- There are substantial additional staff costs that each nursing home is incurring at the present time due to Covid19. These additional costs of maintaining service continuity have substantially increased and will continue over the coming days/ weeks and months (including but not limited to).
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- Wage cost pressure to retain staff
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Immediate Requirement:

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Furthermore, in the event of a significant outbreak in an individual nursing home an enhanced support structure will be required to include (and not limited to) staffing, funding and PPE. This will be matter for agreement with the individual nursing home.

**Nursing Homes Ireland
24th March 2020**



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2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t. (01) 469 9800 | e. info@nhi.ie | nhi.ie

NHI Submission to Inter-Agency Working Group on the Nursing Home Sector with regard to Covid-19

There is an immediate requirement on the Government to formally designate the private and voluntary nursing home sector as a 'critical/frontline sector'. The private and voluntary sector must be "afforded the full resources of the State to ensure it can operate effectively" to care for 25,000 residents and play its role as a vital part of the health and social care service. We cannot countenance nursing homes not being appropriately supported by the State in providing specialised, round-the-clock care to thousands of people in our communities during this national health emergency.

Understandably, much of the Covid-19 discussion has been upon ensuring our acute hospitals have the capacity to meet the sustained challenges that will be presented by Covid-19. There is a requirement to also focus upon the capacity of the nursing home sector, with the private and voluntary sector providing 25,000 of the 30,000 beds in the system, to meet the unprecedented challenges for our residents presented by Covid-19.

We are concerned that not enough attention is being paid to the specific risks and issues that will arise for residents in public, private and voluntary nursing homes.

It is critical to realise these homes are ultimately dependent upon the funding derived through the State from the Nursing Home Support Scheme (Fair Deal) and the requirements now presenting go far beyond fees payable under the scheme. Continued resourcing of nursing homes through the 'traditional' Fair Deal fee is no longer sustainable.

Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity

Attached NHI Submission to Department of Health and HSE on requirement for Emergency Funding to Maintain Service Continuity. There is an immediate requirement for a commitment by Government to additional funding for Fair Deal to meet the increased cost of care for nursing residents in meeting the care needs and addressing the challenges. Huge cost implications present for nursing homes from a staffing and logistical perspective in the management of Covid-19. The State has to recognise such in the provision of emergency funding to maintain the vital community services provided by nursing homes.

Staffing

Staffing pressures have escalated hugely within nursing homes across the country arising from Covid-19. We are faced with an unprecedented challenge in care of the older person and we cannot countenance the required staffing complement not being available within nursing homes to address the emergency presenting. The diminishment of our sector's workforce will threaten the ability of nursing homes to provide care during this health pandemic and this is something we must not countenance.

Priority Testing

Nursing home staff and residents require priority testing.

Members are witnessing significant challenges in maintaining care services with front line staff with eg staff awaiting testing, staff with symptoms, staff awaiting results across our membership. Nursing home staff are on the frontline in healthcare provision and priority testing for their healthcare workers must be prioritised.

Access to equipment – PPE/ Oxygen etc

Nursing homes are reporting limited and in some cases no availability of PPE, with many supplier stating HSE healthcare settings are being prioritised. The most vulnerable people are within nursing homes and access to sufficient supply of PPE is absolutely vital to protect their healthcare staff operating on the frontline and deter possible spread of Covid-19. The HSE must ensure an appropriate supply of equipment is allocated to private and voluntary nursing homes to ensure they are appropriately equipped to manage this unprecedented health emergency.

Required

- A single point of contact from HSE public health for all nursing homes with confirmed positive residents and staff
- Protocol and contingency plan from the HSE in the event of a significant outbreak with commitment to support the nursing home as appropriate
- Establish plans for mutual aid, including sharing of workforce and health professionals between private and voluntary providers and HSE primary and community health services, with deployment of volunteers where that is safe to do so.
- Plan for cases where isolated outbreaks occur, how best the HSE can support in recovery
-

- Support providers in planning around resilience, including plans to share resources locally in an outbreak of COVID-19. This should include workforce, including the deployment of volunteers where it is safe to do so, and where indemnity arrangements are in place
- Priority testing for nursing home staff as essential workers is an imperative.
- Priority testing for nursing home residents is imperative.
- The sector cannot countenance delays in priority testing for residents and staff that provide care for the most vulnerable.
- Commitment to provide all necessary supports including but not limited to PPE, Oxygen. Clear procedures or processes are required to ensure equipment can be sourced with immediacy (entailing out-of-hours).
- Commitment and funding of the required GP support. GPs must be supported to ensure they are available to meet the care needs of nursing home residents and staff, where presenting.
- Requirement of explicit written commitment that the HSE will not recruit staff from the private and voluntary sector. Loss of staff from private and voluntary nursing homes has huge implications for healthcare provision. This should not be countenanced when a health pandemic is presenting for nursing homes that are providing care to those most vulnerable. Migration of staff from private and voluntary nursing homes will prove counter productive, denuding nursing homes of the ability to fulfil their central role in meeting specialised healthcare needs within our communities and engaging collaboratively with acute hospitals and other healthcare providers to fulfil such.
- Commitment from HSE to make available to the nursing home sector potential staff who have applied for roles as part of the national 'on call for Ireland campaign' given the large numbers (reported 40,000) that have applied. The emergency presenting for 'manpower' within our health services is across our health services.
- Commitment from NTPF to engage as per the Act and continue to engage with Registered Providers, renew deeds of agreement and not 'roll over' on existing terms.
- Commitment of resources and support for the nursing home sector from Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection including Intreo and other state agencies in staff retention and recruitment.

Impact of current challenges

- Staffing – nursing homes are reporting that potential employees who have recently been made redundant and have been interviewed and offered roles with member nursing homes are no longer being prepared to accept their job offer in light of the government supports now being offered. Law of unintended consequences.
- The Department of Social Protection has indicated that the €350 payment (medically certified) applies to all full-time and part-time workers – hence if someone works only 10 hours a week and generally receives €110 - €150 , they will be eligible to get €350 per week if absent due to Covid-19. This is arising because payment is not being applied on a pro-rata basis. At the moment, this considerable anomaly applies to a significant element of the nursing home workforce and has significant potential to threaten healthcare delivery within nursing homes.
- Suppliers across the country are advising that they are not in a position to supply PPE and equipment as they state that they are prioritising HSE, with no supplies available for the private and voluntary sector.
- Reduced respite or short stay admissions are resulting in significant loss of funding that is vital for nursing homes in their day-to-day operations.
- Likely significant reduction in non Fair Deal residents/ private payers. Residents who are not funded under Fair Deal pay a weekly fee for care that mirrors the 'true cost of care' and in fact is cross subsidisation of the Fair Deal.
- Payment by families: Given that the NHSS is a co-payment scheme, the fact that large numbers are now unemployed as a result of Covid19 will negatively impact on the assessed family contribution to the Fair Deal as families unemployed may legitimately plead inability to pay. This will further exacerbate funding pressures.
- It will also directly affect the payment of amounts due under the contract for care for services expressly excluded under the Fair Deal, again with families pleading inability to pay.
- PAYE returns – Nursing Homes may now file their monthly P30 (PAYE/PRSI monthly returns) returns for February and March without making the actual payment of the liability due. The Revenue will not charge interest on these late payments and will keep all Tax Clearance Certificates active (members require to ensure the monthly NHSS payments). NHI requests that this mechanism stays in place for April, May and June and then reviewed.

To consider

- The national health emergency presents requirement for innovative thinking. This has been demonstrated by Government and it is required to constantly consider measures that can support our frontline health services in meeting this unprecedented challenge. Providing a temporary Covid19 additional tax free allowance to all nursing home employees would present significant State support for these critical workers and the vital role they are fulfilling within society during these challenging times. It can also further entice those who have become unemployed to assume important roles within our sector during these unprecedented times.

We remain committed to working with the Government, Department of Health and our colleagues in the health services during this extremely challenging time for our country.

Nursing Homes Ireland
25th March 2020

From: gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie
Sent: Wednesday 20 May 2020 14:38
To: Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie; Adam_Fleming@health.gov.ie
Cc: Paul_Bolger@health.gov.ie; Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie
Subject: Fw: Online Recruitment Event

Hi Helen

This wasn't between this department and NHI but we were copied on it. Relates to work DEASP were doing to help with recruitment for Nursing Home Sector.

Gerry

— Forwarded by Gerry O'Brien/SLAINTE on 20/05/2020 14:37 —

From: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>
 To: Jacqui Hogan <Jacqueline.Hogan@welfare.ie>
 Cc: "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>, "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>, Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
 Date: 27/03/2020 10:25
 Subject: RE: Online Recruitment Event

Hi Jacqui

We wanted to express our disappointment that the online recruitment event was cancelled in particular as our members have reached a crisis point with their staffing levels and recruitment requirements.

I have just spoken with your colleague Bernadetta who is sending me on information regarding a specific healthcare recruitment drive, so thank you for that.

I look forward to working with her and Carmel Kelly LHP Skillnet to assist our members recruitment needs as a matter of urgency.

Kind Regards

Bernie Caren
 Recruitment and Employee Relations Specialist
 dd: 01 469 9805
 m: 087 685 5563
 e: hradvice@nhi.ie

*Nursing Homes Ireland

nhi

2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
 Dublin 24, D24 K299,
 T: 01 469 9800
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NHI Care Awards 2019
 in association with Homecare Medical Supplies
 Citywest Hotel, Thursday 14th November 2019, 7pm

- w. www.nhicareawards.ie
- e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie
- t. (01) 296 9394

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From: Jacqui Hogan <Jacqueline.Hogan@welfare.ie>
Sent: Thursday 26 March 2020 09:56
To: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>
Subject: RE: Online Recruitment Event

Hi Bernie,

Sorry I missed your call yesterday.

I have just copied you on an email to Tadhg Daly re yesterday's concerns.

I also wanted to let you know that although the online event is cancelled, we will still be able to provide support to you with your recruitment needs. Bernadetta Gaspari-McGuirk is the Key Account Manager for the Healthcare Sector and will be the contact here going forward. Her phone number is 01-6732778 and I have copied her on this email as well.

Kind regards,

Jacqui Hogan

Key Account Manager

Employer Relations Unit

An Roinn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta agus Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection
Teach Goldsmith, Sráid an Phiarsaigh, Baile Átha Cliath 2, D02YY17
Goldsmith House, Pearse Street, Dublin 2, County, D02YY17
T +353 (0)1 6732789 M +353 (0)87 6096346
www.welfare.ie

From: Bernie Caren [<mailto:hradvice@nhi.ie>]
Sent: 25 March 2020 15:12
To: Jacqui Hogan
Cc: Bernadetta Gaspari-McGuirk; Cassandra Hinchy
Subject: RE: Online Recruitment Event

Hi Jacqui

I'll look at getting that information over to you soonest.

See attached, Tadhg asked me to forward this email to you from one of our members outlining their concerns over the increased payment to €350 per week and she's not alone in contacting us with these concerns today. You've a missed call from me just now, if you get a chance, call me back. Many thanks.

Kind Regards

Bernie Caren

Recruitment and Employee Relations Specialist
dd: 01 469 9805
m: 087 685 5563
e: hradvice@nhi.ie

nhi

Nursing Homes Ireland

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NHI Care Awards 2019
in association with Homecare Medical Supplies
Citywest Hotel, Thursday 14th November 2019, 7pm

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From: Bernie Caren
Sent: Tuesday 24 March 2020 09:29
To: Jacqui Hogan <Jacqueline.Hogan@welfare.ie>
Cc: Tadhg Daly <TDaly@nhi.ie>; Bernadetta Gaspari-McGuirk <Bernadetta.Gaspari-McGuirk@welfare.ie>; Cassandra Hinchy <Cassandra.Hinchy@welfare.ie>
Subject: RE: Online Recruitment Event

Thanks Jacqui.

I'll get back to you as soon as I can gather that information.

Kind Regards

Bernie Caren
Recruitment and Employee Relations Specialist
dd: 01 469 9805
e: hradvice@nhi.ie

nhi

Nursing Homes Ireland

2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
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NHI Care Awards 2019
in association with Homecare Medical Supplies

Citywest Hotel, Thursday 14th November 2019, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie
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From: Jacqui Hogan <Jacqueline.Hogan@welfare.ie>
Sent: Tuesday 24 March 2020 09:26
To: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>
Cc: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>; Bernadetta Gaspari-McGuirk <Bernadetta.Gaspari-McGuirk@welfare.ie>; Cassandra Hinchy <Cassandra.Hinchy@welfare.ie>
Subject: Online Recruitment Event

Hi Bernie,

I sent an email to Tadhg Daly yesterday about the online event we are hosting on our Eures Portal on April 7th and he said you will be the contact for this. I appreciate you are busy today launching your own recruitment portal today, but if you could send over a list of vacancies with job specs we can get them uploaded for you to get the ball rolling on this.

We will be sending out details soon about registering on the website for the event.

Please let me know if there's anything further I can help with - all my contact details are below.

Kind regards,

Jacqui Hogan

Key Account Manager

Employer Relations Unit

An Roinn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta agus Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection
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Tá an Roinn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta agus Coimirce Sóisialaí tiomanta do do phríobháideacht agus do chearta mar dhuine is ábhar do shonraí a chosaint i gcomhréir le Rialachán Ginearálta an Aontais Eorpaigh maidir le Cosaint Sonraí. Tugtar míniú inár [Ráiteas Príobháideachais](#) ar an gcaoi a ndaingnímid agus a mbainistimid do shonraí pearsanta. Léirítear sa Ráiteas freisin an chaoi ar féidir leat do chearta a fheidhmiú faoin Rialachán Ginearálta maidir le Cosaint Sonraí (RGCS).

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An Roinn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta agus Coimirce Sóisialaí – Vireas-scanta

Adam Fleming

From: Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie
Sent: Friday 27 March 2020 15:07
To: Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie
Cc: Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie; Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie
Subject: Fw: Covid-19: Nursing Homes Ireland Update - Key Challenges
Attachments: Nursing Homes Ireland Briefing for TDs 270320.pdf

Hi Kathleen

Please see attached for your information

Kind regards

Matthew

Matthew O'Gorman
 Private Secretary
 Minister Harris' Private Office

An Roinn Sláinte
 Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
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 Diary email - MinistersDiary@health.gov.ie

matthew_ogorman@health.gov.ie

— Forwarded by Matthew O'Gorman/SLAINTE on 27/03/2020 15:05 —

From: Simon Harris <Simon.Harris@oireachtas.ie>
 To: "Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie" <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie>
 Date: 27/03/2020 10:26
 Subject: FW: Covid-19: Nursing Homes Ireland Update - Key Challenges

From: Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>
Sent: 27 March 2020 09:50
Subject: Covid-19: Nursing Homes Ireland Update - Key Challenges

Dear Deputy,

Please find provided update from Nursing Homes Ireland regarding key challenges being presented for nursing homes during Covid-19.

460+ private and voluntary nursing homes provide highly specialised clinical, health and social care on a 24/7 basis to 25,000 people across Ireland. The people availing of nursing home care are amongst the most vulnerable during Covid-19, presenting with high-dependency care needs and many have underlying health conditions.

We cannot countenance nursing homes decrying lack of support from the State during this health crisis.

We appreciate your support in advancing the challenges presented and welcome opportunity to engage further.

Yours,
Michael

Michael McGlynn

--

Michael McGlynn
Communications & Research Executive
e. michael@nhi.ie
dd. 01 4699806
m. 087 9082970

Nursing Homes Ireland



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<http://www.oireachtas.ie/parliament/ga/eolas/beartasriomhphoistanoireachtaisagusseanadh/> (See attached file: [Nursing Homes Ireland Briefing for TDs 270320.pdf](#))



Nursing Homes Ireland
Covid-19 TD Briefing
27th March 2020

About our Sector

460+ private and voluntary nursing homes provide highly specialised clinical, health and social care on a 24/7 basis to 25,000 people across Ireland.

The people availing of nursing home care are amongst the most vulnerable during Covid-19. They present with high-dependency care needs and many have underlying health conditions.

Providing them with the specialised clinical, health and social care within these home-from-home settings are dedicated care teams that operate on a 24/7 basis. 35,000 people are employed across our communities to meet the care needs of nursing home residents.

Nursing homes are on the 'frontline' of healthcare delivery. We have a duty of care to ensure those providing care during this public health emergency to the 25,000 people are appropriately supported by the State.

Staff within our nursing homes are passionate about meeting the care needs of those entrusted in their care and have asked NHI to reach out to every TD in Dáil Éireann.

We ask you, our national representatives, to commit to NHI and local nursing homes to support our sector as it faces unprecedented challenges. Insufficient support from the State during this health pandemic cannot be countenanced.

We are now taking opportunity to brief you regarding four key challenges presently presenting for our nursing homes.

Key challenges

PPE Equipment

Nursing homes are reporting inconsistent access to this vital medical equipment to protect workers and deter the spread of Covid-19 within nursing homes. Many are informing of prolonged delays in accessing equipment and others state no supply of such has been provided. We require the HSE to ensure an appropriate supply of equipment is allocated to help guarantee the 460+ private and voluntary nursing homes can protect frontline health workers and deter the spread of Covid-19 amongst the most vulnerable people.

Staffing

Staffing pressures have escalated hugely within nursing homes across the country arising from Covid-19. We are faced with an unprecedented challenge in care of the older person and we cannot countenance the required staffing complement not being available within nursing homes to address the emergency presenting. Shortages are already presenting arising from staff being removed from the nursing home setting due Covid-19 cases. We have informed the HSE that the targeted recruitment of staff from private and voluntary nursing homes will be to the severe detriment of people in nursing homes who have severe underlying health conditions. Disappointingly, some nursing homes have informed key staff have received representations on behalf of the HSE. We must stress the diminishment of our sector's workforce will threaten the ability of nursing homes to provide care during this health pandemic and will ultimately present negative consequences for healthcare delivery.

Unemployed payment

Many have unfortunately been made unemployed as a result of the Covid-19 crisis and a €350 State payment is being made. The State should consider ensuring the nursing home sector can still recruit a cohort of the unemployed available for work to support critical healthcare providers during this crisis. The payment should be only possible where other employment isn't available.

Funding

As per other health services, Covid-19 is presenting huge funding challenges in the provision of care. Huge cost implications present for nursing homes from a staffing and logistical perspective in the management of Covid-19. A huge cost outlay is presenting for every nursing home in preparing for and managing Covid-19. The State has to recognise such in the provision of emergency funding to maintain the vital community services provided by nursing homes.

Support our sector

Nursing homes have an absolutely vital role to fulfil in protecting the most vulnerable during this national health emergency. We cannot countenance nursing homes decrying lack of support from the State during this health crisis.

We appreciate your support in advancing the challenges presented and welcome opportunity to engage further.

If you wish to speak further with Tadhg Daly, NHI CEO, or your local private and voluntary nursing homes, please contact Michael McGlynn, NHI Communications & Research Executive at 087 9082970. Michael can facilitate such engagement.

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Sent: Saturday 28 March 2020 19:09
To: Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie
Cc: Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie; Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie; Michael McGlynn; Fiona Kenny
Subject: RE: Query re healthcare construction

Thank you Niall

Tadhg

From: Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Saturday 28 March 2020 18:28
To: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie; Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie; Michael McGlynn <Michael@nhi.ie>; Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>
Subject: Re: Query re healthcare construction

Tadhg

The department of the Taoiseach has just published the list of essential service providers. It would seem to me that the scenario you referenced below is dealt with under section 5 "construction".

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/dfeb8f-list-of-essential-service-providers-under-new-public-health-guidelin/>

Regards

Niall

Sent from IBM Notes Traveler

me --- Re: Query re healthcare construction ---

From: "Niall Redmond" <Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie>
To: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: "Dave Walsh" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>, "Karl Duff" <Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie>, "Michael McGlynn" <Michael@nhi.ie>, "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: Sat, 28 Mar 2020 14:29
Subject: Re: Query re healthcare construction

Hi Tadhg

I understand that the Department of the Taoiseach is coordinating, across sectors, the position in relation to essential workers/services vis-a-vis yesterday's announcement.

We are hoping that they will be able to provide further and fuller clarity today.

The health sector is engaging with D/Taoiseach on relevant issues and I would imagine the type of scenarios outlined in your email may be covered, but I can't confirm at this point. I also understand that implementation/practicalities of the various measures announced remains part of active and evolving consideration.

You can be assured however that the Department of Health also recognises such issues. If/when I hear anything further I will let you know.

Regards

Niall

Sent from IBM Notes Traveler

Tadhg Daly --- Query re healthcare construction ---

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie, Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie, Karl_Duff@health.gov.ie
Cc: "Michael McGlynn" <Michael@nhi.ie>, "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>
Date: Sat, 28 Mar 2020 14:03
Subject: Query re healthcare construction

Good morning Niall,

As you may be aware a number of members are currently constructing additional capacity by way of extensions and also some new builds.

Can you confirm the position regarding the closure of building sites? Is this all sites?
Is there any proposal, with appropriate guidelines and public health protocols, that healthcare provision will be facilitated to ensure capacity can be provided? I note that HSE are also in construction of temporary facilities given the scale of current challenges.

I appreciate your advices.

Thanks
Tadhg

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>
> Thank you for your email and call just now.
>
> I can confirm 12.30 tomorrow in Dept of Health.
>
> NHI representatives Vicky McDwyer, Esker Lodge Nursing Home, Riognach Murphy, Grace Healthcare
> Tara Winthrop and myself
>
> Best regards,
> Tadhg
>
> From: Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie
> Sent: Sunday 29 March 2020 13:17
> To: Tadhg Daly
> Cc: Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie; Fiona Kenny
> Subject: RE: Meeting with Minister Harris
> Importance: High
>
> Hi Tadhg
>
> Sorry for the delay in getting back to you
>
> Meeting will be at 12:30 in Miesian Plaza.
>
> If at all possible I would be grateful if you could limit your delegation, including self, to 2 or 3 people
> maximum.
>
> Kind regards
>
> Matthew
>
> Sent from IBM Notes Traveler
>
> Tadhg Daly --- RE: Meeting with Minister Harris ---
>
> +-----+
> | From: | "Tadhg Daly" | | [mailto:tdaly@nhi.ie] |
> +-----+
> | To: | (Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.i
> | | ie) |
> | | [mailto:Matthew_OGorman@heal
> | | th.gov.ie] |
> +-----+
> | Cc: | Minister'sDiary@health.gov.i
> | | e, "Fiona Kenny" |
> | | | [mailto:ea@nhi.ie] |
> +-----+
> | Date: | Sun, 29 Mar 2020 11:35 AM |
> +-----+
> | Subject: | RE: Meeting with Minister |
> | | Harris |
> +-----+
>
>
>
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> Hello Matthew,
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> Can you confirm time for tomorrow's meeting at your earliest convenience.

> Also please confirm if the meeting is going ahead in Miesian Plaza?

>

> You have my mobile if you need to call

>

> Thank you

> Tadhg

>

> Tadhg Daly

> Chief Executive

> e. (tdaly@nhi.ie) [mailto:tdaly@nhi.ie]

> p. 01/4699800

> m. 087/2651934

>

> NHI Care Awards 2020

> in association with Homecare Medical

> Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12 th November 2020, 7pm

>

> w. (www.nhicareawards.ie)

> <https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nhicareawards.ie%2F&data=01%7C01%7Ctdaly%40nhi.ie%7C4f0d0d780532443d93fc08d7d3db4179%7C28bf56a2482148fd9aa402474b2089c7%7C1&sdata=o8RcuYeBXInxfBT0%2FTFF2PibB%2BGzIGtec%2Fp8ywRmfjM%3D&reserved=0>

> e. (nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie) [mailto:nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie]

> t. (01) 296 9394

>

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>

> From: Tadhg Daly

> Sent: Thursday 26 March 2020 20:54

> To: (Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie) [mailto:Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie]

> Cc: Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie; Fiona Kenny <(ea@nhi.ie) [mailto:ea@nhi.ie]>

> Subject: RE: Meeting with Minister Harris

>

> Thank you Matthew,

>

> Can I suggest anytime between 11am to 3pm. That said we will make ourselves available at a time convenient for Minister.

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> Best regards,

> Tadhg

>

> From: (Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie) [mailto:Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie] <(Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie) [mailto:Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie]>

> Sent: Thursday 26 March 2020 20:09

> To: Tadhg Daly <(tdaly@nhi.ie) [mailto:tdaly@nhi.ie]>

> Cc: Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie

> Subject: Meeting with Minister Harris

> Importance: High

>

> Dear Mr Daly

>

> Minister Harris has asked me to contact you in relation to your recent correspondences and to confirm that he would be happy to meet with you on Monday 30th March in Miesian Plaza

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> I'm afraid I don't have a confirmed time as yet but perhaps you would advise any particular times you are unavailable and I can try to factor them in while securing a suitable time.

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> I would be grateful if you would send on an agenda for discussion as soon as possible.

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> In keeping with our Social Distancing guidelines I would ask that you keep delegation to the very minimum.

>

> Kind regards

>

> Matthew

>

> _____

> Matthew O'Gorman

> Private Secretary

> Minister Harris' Private Office

>

> _____

> An Roinn Sláinte

> Department of Health

>

> Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14

> Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

>

> _____

> T +353 (0)1 635 4149

>

> Diary email - (MinistersDiary@health.gov.ie) [<mailto:MinistersDiary@health.gov.ie>]

>

> (matthew_ogorman@health.gov.ie) [mailto:matthew_ogorman@health.gov.ie]

> *****

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> *****

>

> *****

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> *****



Covid-19: HSE communication, dedicated helpline & Essential Workers Letter

Tadhg Daly

to:

Fiona Kenny

29/03/2020 13:43

Hide Details

From: "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>

To: "Fiona Kenny" <ca@nhi.ie>

Security:

To ensure privacy, images from remote sites were prevented from downloading. Show Images

[View this email in your browser](#)

Dear Member,

Today we provide updates regarding:

- **HSE communication with NHI re Covid-19 support measures**
- **HSE helpline to provide occupational advice for healthcare workers**
- **Reminder: Essential workers letter template**
- **Minister for Health meeting tomorrow**

HSE communication with NHI re Covid-19 support measures

Within our [Covid-19 Friday Members Update](#) we informed of representations to HSE CEO Paul Reid. We received a response from HSE this weekend with regard to matters raised.

The HSE acknowledges the preparedness of nursing homes within a short

timeframe for the challenges presented and the risk that the spread of the virus poses to nursing home residents and staff.

The Executive informs it has taken measures to support the sector through:

- Developing/Revising all guidelines and clinical advice related to COVID as issued by NHI over the past two weeks.
- Commencement of the supply on a prioritised basis of PPE (COVID related) to the private and voluntary nursing homes where there are likely or known outbreaks.
- Provision of clinical guidance through Webinar regarding the management of residents who contract Covid-19 in residential care settings, including end of life care.

The HSE informs the management at local level of the Covid-19 measures rests with Area Crisis Management Teams (ACMTs) chaired by the 9 Chief Officers of the CHOs (Community Healthcare Organisations) and including all relevant HSE services including public health, acute hospitals, National Ambulance Service.

It states: "All ACMTs have been asked to prioritise residential care as a focus for testing and management of outbreaks given what we have learned to date about the nature of the spread of the illness related to the virus. ACMTs are asked now to form on an 'as needs' basis multi-disciplinary crises teams to include input from public health specialists professionals such as consultant geriatrician and palliative care, senior nursing and management to liaise and work with individual centres who are experiencing an outbreak. These teams will be linked closely to their respective ACMTs to advise on unfolding situations and steps to be taken to support the nursing home to regain a 'steady state'. It will, of course, be imperative that nursing homes will be taking all the steps necessary to prepare for and contain such outbreaks including ensuring that there is sharing of staff across the sector, supporting contingency arrangements for medical cover etc. Each circumstance may need different solutions and the expertise of the HSE multidisciplinary team linking closely with the registered provider and person in charge to support their plan will help support this through."

With regard to access to PPE, it states the significant delivery anticipated over the weekend will be of assistance in supporting the prioritisation process and ensuring that it can be made available in a timely manner particularly to nursing

homes who have outbreaks. It informs engagement will be undertaken with HSE procurement early next week "to ensure that the process through the ACMTs is working well from a logistics perspective, albeit with constraints remaining until we have a steady supply of PPE as we move forward".

Our representations for the HSE to desist from recruiting from our sector will be referred to its head of HR, we are informed.

You will be aware our engagement with the HSE is continuous and we will follow-up further with regard to the effective operation of Area Crisis Management Teams in their support of nursing homes at local level.

HSE helpline for occupational advice for healthcare workers

The HSE has established a helpline specifically to support healthcare workers in relation to occupational health advice during Covid-19. Arising from NHI representations, the helpline is open to nursing staff within our nursing homes and also providers of care. The contact number is **1850 420420** and the helpline is available 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday.

Reminder: Essential workers letter template

Our Update on Wednesday provided you with a template for utilisation by your staff in presenting to emergency services that they are essential workers fulfilling frontline duties. We are providing the letter to you again for utilisation:

[Download the letter in PDF format here](#)

[Download the letter in Word format here](#)

Minister for Health meeting tomorrow

A reminder that representatives from our sector are meeting with Minister for Health Simon Harris tomorrow. Critical challenges presenting that will be brought before the Minister will principally be:

- Access to PPE and specialist equipment
- Staffing constraints upon our sector and requirement for the State to desist from depleting private and voluntary nursing homes of staff
- Requirement to recognise Covid-19 is having huge cost implications for every nursing homes and this must be recognised in enhanced funding for the Fair Deal scheme or emergency funding

We will of course update Members post-meeting and wish you a safe Sunday.

Yours,

Michael McGlynn,

Communications & Research Executive

FacebookTwitterLinkedInWebsite

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Our contact number is:

+353 (0)1 4699800

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From: gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie
Sent: Wednesday 20 May 2020 14:36
To: Helen_Simon@health.gov.ie; Adam_Fleming@health.gov.ie
Cc: Paul_Bolger@health.gov.ie
Subject: Fw: DEASP & NHI Contact details re recruitment of Health Care Assistants from the Live Register
Attachments: Role Profile for HCA.docx

Helen / Adam

Sending a couple more email trails which Sam had engaged on with NHI,

Gerry

— Forwarded by Gerry O'Brien/SLAINTE on 20/05/2020 14:33 —

From: Bernie Caren <hradvice@nhi.ie>
To: "Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie" <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Cassandra Hinchy <Cassandra.Hinchy@welfare.ie>, Bernadetta Gaspari-McGuirk <Bernadetta.Gaspari-McGuirk@welfare.ie>, "gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie" <gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie>, "John_Seery@health.gov.ie" <John_Seery@health.gov.ie>, Jacqui Hogan <Jacqueline.Hogan@welfare.ie>
Date: 30/03/2020 10:11
Subject: RE: DEASP & NHI Contact details re recruitment of Health Care Assistants from the Live Register

Hi Samantha

Following on from the email below, see attached Role Profile for HCA's.

Kind Regards

Bernie Caren
Recruitment and Employee Relations Specialist
dd: 01 469 9805
m: 087 685 5563
e: hradvice@nhi.ie

Nursing Homes Ireland



2051 Castle Drive, Citywest,
Dublin 24, D24 K299.
t: 01 469 9800
e: info@nhi.ie
nhi.ie

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in association with Homecare Medical Supplies
Citywest Hotel, Thursday 14th November 2019, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie
e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie
t. (01) 296 9394

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From: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie <Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 20 March 2020 11:07
To: cassandra.hinchy@welfare.ie; jacqueline.hogan@welfare.ie; Tadhg Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
Cc: gerry_obrien@health.gov.ie; John_Seery@health.gov.ie
Subject: DEASP & NHI Contact details re recruitment of Health Care Assistants from the Live Register

Dear All

Thank you Cassandra and Jackie for the discussions so far in relation to assisting Nursing Homes Ireland and their members with the recruitment of Health Care Assistants from the live register.

I have advised the NHI of our discussions yesterday in terms of role profiles, and the responsibilities of a FETAC5 qualified person, and any scope to carve out a role with responsibilities that do not require that level also. I am aware that they have an agreed HCA candidate profile with the DEASP, and hopefully this can be used as a starting point.

Please see all contact details below as the process will progress with speed on foot of direct engagement between NHI and DEASP going forward.

Thank you all.

Kind regards

Sam

cassandra.hinchy@welfare.ie 087 7099937
jacqueline.hogan@welfare.ie 01 6732789

Tadhg Daly tdaly@nhi.ie 01 4699805

Samantha Kenny

People, Pay and Superannuation Unit (PPSU) | Resources Division | Department of Health | Block 1, Miesian Plaza | 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street | Dublin D02 XW14

Direct Dial: 01 6354069 | Email: Samantha_Kenny@health.gov.ie*****

Email Disclaimer and; Legal Notice: <http://health.gov.ie/email-disclaimer/>

(See attached file: Role Profile for HCA.docx)

HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT JOB DESCRIPTION

Position: Healthcare Assistant

Reporting to: Staff Nurse

Accountable to: Director of Nursing

Job Summary

To deliver high standards of personal and individualised care under the supervision and guidance of the trained nursing staff.

All employees are expected to honour the privacy of the resident. Respect for the individuality, dignity, autonomy and empowerment of the resident must underpin all activities and interactions undertaken during the course of their duties

Key Responsibilities

Key Result Area: Personal Presentation

- Ensuring that one's personal demeanor, attitudes and interactions are at all times professional in approach
- Presenting in the full company uniform at all times
- Maintaining a high degree of personal hygiene
- Presented in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Practice and promote Nursing home guidelines on hand washing and Infection Control to protect oneself and others
- Adherence to guidelines on Absenteeism Lateness and sickness

KRA: Resident Care

- Supporting the nursing staff in providing high quality holistic care
- Ensuring residents hygiene/personal care needs are maintained to the highest standards while maintaining the residents dignity at all time
- Assisting residents with eating and drinking in line with their nutrition needs
- Toileting Residents and disposal of used Sputum containers and drainage of urine bags
- Assisting in the safekeeping of residents valuables

- Assisting residents with mobilizing as appropriate and using correct aids
- Reporting any changes in resident's condition to the trained nurse
- Assisting in keeping all nursing home areas with particular focus on resident's room, wardrobe, locker and clothing organized clean and tidy
- Escorting or/and transfer residents as directed by the Nursing staff
- Assisting in End of Life Care
- Assisting in keeping the dining area organized clean and tidy
- Sorting soiled laundry and clean laundry as required

KRA: Health and Safety Awareness

- Read, understand and comply with all new policies with emphasis on the Elder Abuse policy
- Co-operation with complaints handling and compliance with Complaints policy
- Adherence to precautions identified in the infection control policy
- Attending to any spillages or hazards to avoid any accident
- Assisting in the disposal of clinical waste in line with Nursing home policy
- Application of Manual Handling techniques as trained
- Knowledge of and compliance with fire safety regulations
- Knowledge of and compliance with the Safety statement
- Ensuring the work area is a safe environment for residents and visitors
- Familiar with the Health and safety at work Act 2005
- Compliance with H.A.C.C.P guidelines and all 'Food Safety' best practices
- Adherence to all national and local health and safety policies and guidelines
- Carry out practical duties only when competent to do so.
- Assisting in the hygiene of equipment such as hoists, call bells and chairs
- Reporting any defects in equipment

KRA: Communication and Relationships

- Assisting in maintaining a physical environment that is safe, peaceful and comfortable for all residents and employees alike
- Directing any queries regarding residents welfare to the Nursing staff
- Working as part of the team
- Attending floor meetings as required
- Aware of all internal memos and directives by management
- Attending the six-monthly communication meetings
- Communicating any grievances with line management
- Maintaining an open and honest relationship with all departments including the kitchen, housekeeping, Activities, Maintenance, finance, Human Resources and owners.

KRA: Administration and Continuous Improvement

- Recording data on Residents wellbeing as directed
- Recording as directed in the care-plan for each individual resident
- Attending mandatory training and other training as directed by the trained nursing staff
- Attending probationary meetings in the first 6 months of service with the nursing home
- Attending six monthly appraisals with the Line Management
- Aware of all policies and any changes or amendments that are made to the nursing home policies
- Contributing to own personal development and attending training and development where needed

Demonstration of Values

All employees should continually promote legacy of Company Culture through demonstrating its values Competence, Integrity and Ethics, Teamwork and Communication.

Confidentiality

It is a condition of employment that staff will not disclose any information obtained during the course of their work other than to those entitled to receive it.

Variation to duties

You may be required to undertake other duties as may reasonably be expected of you within the scope of the post.

Amending the job description

This Job description indicates the main functions and responsibilities of the post and is subject to review and amendment to reflect changing circumstances and it may include other responsibilities as may be determined from time to time by the Director of Nursing

or other designated Line manager.

Signed: _____
Human Resources

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Employee

Date: _____



Re: Meeting with Minister Harris
Matthew O'Gorman to: Tadhg Daly
Cc: Fiona Kenny, "Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie"

30/03/2020 12:38

Tadhg

I'm very sorry but there's been further developments that have necessitated changes to the Diary.

The Minister has asked that your meeting be at 1:30pm.

Can you confirm you will be available for this revised time .

Kind regards

Matthew

Matthew O'Gorman
Private Secretary
Minister Harris' Private Office

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Íochtarach, Baile Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
Block 1, Miesian Plaza, 50 - 58 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin, D02 XW14

T +353 (0)1 635 4149
M +353 87 699 3579
Diary email - MinistersDiary@health.gov.ie

matthew_ogorman@health.gov.ie

Tadhg Daly Good morning Matthew, That's no problem, fully app... 30/03/2020 07:32:28

From: Tadhg Daly <tdaly@hhi.ie>
To: "Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie" <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie>
Cc: Fiona Kenny <ea@hhi.ie>, "Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie" <Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie>
Date: 30/03/2020 07:32
Subject: Re: Meeting with Minister Harris

Good morning Matthew,
That's no problem, fully appreciate the diary challenges.
I can confirm 2.30pm
Best regards,
Tadhg

On 30 Mar 2020, at 07:23, "Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie" <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie> wrote:

Dear Tadhg

I'm afraid that the Minister has had to alter his schedule for the day.

The Minister can no longer meet at 12:30 as planned but could meet at 2:30pm instead.

The Minister would like to apologise for the inconvenience

Kind regards

Matthew

Matthew O'Gorman
Private Secretary
Minister Harris' Private Office

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Bloc 1, Plaza Miesach, 50 - 58 Sráid Bhagóid Iochtarach, Balle Átha Cliath, D02 XW14
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T +353 (0)1 635 4149
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Diary email - MinistersDiary@health.gov.ie

matthew_ogorman@health.gov.ie

From: ^{XXXXXXXX} "Tadhg Daly" <tdaly@nhi.ie>
To: "Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie" <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie>
Cc: "Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie" <Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie>, "Fiona Kenny" <^{XXXXXXXX}fkenny@nhi.ie>
Date: 29/03/2020 13:35
Subject: RE: Meeting with Minister Harris

Matthew,

Thank you for your email and call just now.

I can confirm 12.30 tomorrow in Dept of Health.

NH representative Vicky McDwyer, Esker Lodge Nursing Home, Rioghnach Murphy, Grace Healthcare
Tara Winthrop and myself

Best regards,
Tadhg

From: Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie>
Sent: Sunday 29 March 2020 13:17
To: Tadhg.Daly <tdaly@nhi.ie>
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Subject: RE: Meeting with Minister Harris
Importance: High

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If at all possible I would be grateful if you could limit your delegation, including self, to 2 or 3 people maximum.

Kind regards

Matthew

Sent from IBM Notes Traveler

Tadhg Daly --- RE: Meeting with Minister Harris ---

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Also please confirm if the meeting is going ahead in Miesian Plaza?

You have my mobile if you need to call

Thank you
Tadhg

Tadhg.Daly

Chief Executive

e. tdaly@nhi.ie

p. 01/4699800

m. 087/2651934

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From: Tadhg Daly

Sent: Thursday 26 March 2020 20:54

To: Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie

Cc: Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie; Fiona Kenny <ea@nhi.ie>

Subject: RE: Meeting with Minister Harris

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Best regards,

Tadhg

From: Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie <Matthew_OGorman@health.gov.ie>

Sent: Thursday 26 March 2020 20:09

To: Tadhg.Daly@daly@nhi.ie

Cc: Minister'sDiary@health.gov.ie

Subject: Meeting with Minister Harris

Importance: High

Dear Mr Daly

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I'm afraid I don't have a confirmed time as yet but perhaps you would advise any particular times you are unavailable and I can try to factor them in while securing a suitable time.

I would be grateful if you would send on an agenda for discussion as soon as possible.

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Kind regards

Matthew

—
Matthew O’Gorman
Private Secretary
Minister Harris’ Private Office

—
An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

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Diary email - MinistersDiary@health.gov.ie

matthew.ogorman@health.gov.ie

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.....

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Nursing Home Supports
Tadhg Daly

to:

Kathleen_MacLellan@health.gov.ie, Niall_Redmond@health.gov.ie
31/03/2020 11:57

Cc:

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Cc: "Fiona Kenny" <ea@nhi.ie>, "Michael McGlynn" <Michael@nhi.ie>, "Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie" <Dave_Walsh@health.gov.ie>

Dear Kathleen and Niall,

I refer to our meeting yesterday and can I again acknowledge commitment of Minister and Department of Health to enhanced measures to support the residents and staff in nursing home sector.

As discussed and outlined at our meeting we acknowledge and welcome the fact that proposal are being considered by NPHE for decision today regarding further enhanced measures in nursing homes in the fight against COVID-19.

The communication of any such measures is vital and we note commitment to NHI to brief us in parallel with the government on these decisions made at NPHE.

Can you please confirm briefing details including timing and if via conference call/meeting etc?

Best regards,

Tadhg

Tadhg Daly

Chief Executive

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NHI Care Awards 2020

in association with Homecare Medical

Citywest Hotel, Thursday 12th November 2020, 7pm

w. www.nhicareawards.ie

e. nhicareawards@eventpartners.ie

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