



Underlying conditions in confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ireland

Report prepared by HPSC on 27/10/2020

As part of the public health follow-up of confirmed cases of COVID-19, information is routinely collected on whether a case has the following underlying medical conditions: chronic heart disease, chronic neurological disease, chronic respiratory disease, chronic kidney disease, chronic liver disease, hypertension, asthma requiring medication, immunodeficiency, diabetes mellitus, BMI \geq 40, cancer/malignancy, pregnancy and/or other comorbidities.

Up to midnight 24/10/2020, there were 57,111 confirmed cases of COVID-19;

- 53.3% (n=30,420) had no underlying medical condition
- 26.7% (n=15,253) had an underlying medical condition and
- 20.0% (n=11,438) were unknown/not reported

Of those with an underlying condition reported, 47.0% (n=7,176) had one underlying medical condition, 22.6% (n=3,441) had two underlying medical conditions; and 16.0% (n=2,433) had three or more underlying medical conditions reported. A further 14.4% (n=2,203) had no specific underlying medical condition reported.

Table 1 describes the number and proportion of individuals with and without underlying medical conditions in different settings.

Table 2 describes the number and proportion of individuals with and without underlying medical conditions by age group.

Table 3 lists specific underlying medical conditions and the number and proportion in different settings (as a proportion of cases where there is an underlying condition). The five most commonly reported conditions overall were, chronic respiratory disease, chronic heart disease, hypertension, diabetes mellitus and chronic neurological disease.

In addition to the conditions listed in Table 3, 6,223 cases were reported to have “other comorbidity” and 355 cases were reported to be pregnant.

Table 1: Underlying medical conditions in individuals with confirmed COVID-19 by setting, up to midnight 24/10/2020

| | Community | | Acute Hospital | | All settings | | ICU | | Died | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % |
| Underlying condition | 12,565 | 23.8% | 2,688 | 63.8% | 15,253 | 26.7% | 469 | 88.0% | 1,534 | 94.0% |
| No underlying conditions | 29,600 | 56.0% | 820 | 19.5% | 30,420 | 53.3% | 63 | 11.8% | 31 | 1.9% |
| Unknown | 10,734 | 20.3% | 704 | 16.7% | 11,438 | 20.0% | 1 | 0.2% | 67 | 4.1% |
| Total | 52,899 | 100.0% | 4212 | 100.0% | 57,111 | 100.0% | 533 | 100.0% | 1,632 | 100.0% |

Table 2: Underlying medical conditions in individuals with confirmed COVID-19 by age group, up to midnight 24/10/2020

| | 0-14 yrs | | 15-24 yrs | | 25-34 yrs | | 35-44 yrs | | 45-54 yrs | | 55-64 yrs | | 65-74 yrs | | 75+ yrs | | Unknown | | Total | |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % |
| Underlying condition | 376 | 9.1% | 1140 | 11.7% | 1688 | 17.2% | 1925 | 21.3% | 2559 | 29.1% | 2402 | 37.9% | 1760 | 52.6% | 3397 | 57.8% | 6 | 20.7% | 15253 | 26.7% |
| No underlying condition | 3164 | 76.9% | 7088 | 72.4% | 6248 | 63.8% | 5353 | 59.2% | 4503 | 51.3% | 2638 | 41.6% | 866 | 25.9% | 555 | 9.4% | 5 | 17.2% | 30420 | 53.3% |
| Unknown | 575 | 14.0% | 1557 | 15.9% | 1863 | 19.0% | 1757 | 19.4% | 1717 | 19.6% | 1306 | 20.6% | 722 | 21.6% | 1923 | 32.7% | 18 | 62.1% | 11438 | 20.0% |
| Total | 4115 | 100.0% | 9785 | 100.0% | 9799 | 100.0% | 9035 | 100.0% | 8779 | 100.0% | 6346 | 100.0% | 3348 | 100.0% | 5875 | 100.0% | 29 | 100.0% | 57111 | 100.0% |

Table 3: Specific underlying medical conditions in individuals with confirmed COVID-19 by setting (as a proportion of cases who have an underlying condition), up to midnight 24/10/2020

| | Community (n=12,565) | | Acute Hospital (n=2,688) | | All settings (n=15,253) | | ICU (n=469) | | Died (n=1,534) | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % | Number | % |
| Chronic respiratory disease | 2,921 | 23.2% | 663 | 24.7% | 3,584 | 23.5% | 136 | 29.0% | 280 | 18.3% |
| Chronic heart disease | 2,142 | 17.0% | 1,106 | 41.1% | 3,248 | 21.3% | 256 | 54.6% | 678 | 44.2% |
| Hypertension | 2,100 | 16.7% | 591 | 22.0% | 2,691 | 17.6% | 189 | 40.3% | 288 | 18.8% |
| Diabetes mellitus | 1,191 | 9.5% | 540 | 20.1% | 1,731 | 11.3% | 145 | 30.9% | 241 | 15.7% |
| Chronic neurological disease | 1,056 | 8.4% | 400 | 14.9% | 1,456 | 9.5% | 26 | 5.5% | 540 | 35.2% |
| Cancer/malignancy | 618 | 4.9% | 398 | 14.8% | 1016 | 6.7% | 63 | 13.4% | 249 | 16.2% |
| Chronic kidney disease | 408 | 3.2% | 316 | 11.8% | 724 | 4.7% | 53 | 11.3% | 185 | 12.1% |
| Asthma requiring medication | 371 | 3.0% | 176 | 6.5% | 547 | 3.6% | 62 | 13.2% | 33 | 2.2% |
| Immunodeficiency including HIV | 436 | 3.5% | 136 | 5.1% | 572 | 3.8% | 34 | 7.2% | 41 | 2.7% |
| BMI ≥ 40 | 175 | 1.4% | 153 | 5.7% | 328 | 2.2% | 100 | 21.3% | 30 | 2.0% |
| Chronic liver disease | 146 | 1.2% | 80 | 3.0% | 226 | 1.5% | 17 | 3.6% | 31 | 2.0% |

Technical Notes

- Data were extracted from Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR) system at 09:15 on 27/10/2020.
- Data provisional and subject to ongoing review, validation and update. As a result, figures in this report may differ from previously published figures.
- Acute Hospital refers to hospital in-patients and includes ICU cases; Community refers to all other cases
- Cases may have more than one underlying medical condition and therefore column totals in Table 3 will not add up to the number of cases in each category

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