



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

6th October 2020.

PQ Number: 24962/20

Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of Covid-19 tests evaluated at each testing laboratory involved on a weekly basis since 1 April 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - David Cullinane

Request Type: Direct Written Response to david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie with a copy to pquestions@hse.ie for national database close off

HSE Due Date: 06/10/2020

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

NPHET determine the capacity and the public health testing strategy for the HSE. Currently our testing capacity is at 15,000 tests per day which is in line with the original requirement from NPHET. The testing capacity is delivered by 42 acute hospital laboratories and 4 community diagnostic laboratories.

Note in some cases testing capacity can be stood up or down with appropriate notice so the available capacity can fluctuate.

The laboratories have to meet a number of testing demands including:

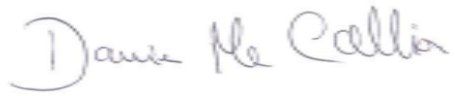
- Acute hospital In-patient testing
- Health care worker testing
- Targeted public health testing initiatives; such as those in Residential Care Facilities
- Population testing for people who meet the case definition

Please see attachment setting out the volumes undertaken by each laboratory.

While we capture private hospital laboratory results at a cumulative level for public health purposes these tests are not done under the governance of the HSE.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Damien McCallion". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Damien McCallion
National Director, HSE