

ROUND UP OF OUR

**REPORTS,
REVIEWS AND
ADVICE**

April - July 2022



Introduce a Metabolic surgery programme

Last month we published a health technology assessment (HTA) recommending the introduction of a metabolic surgery programme as part of the clinical pathway for type 2 diabetes in Ireland. The Health Service Executive requested that we complete this HTA.

Our assessment examined...

using bariatric surgery, a surgery which modifies the stomach and small intestines, to treat comorbid type 2 diabetes (T2D) and obesity. Bariatric surgery is known as metabolic surgery when used to treat metabolic diseases such as type 2 diabetes.

We found...

that adding metabolic surgery, which many diabetes organisations now recommend, to the T2D clinical care pathway would be an efficient and highly cost-effective use of healthcare resources relative to the best medical care.

safe **successful**

**improvements
up to ten years**

cost-effective



Future HTAs

We published two protocols for upcoming HTAs in June. Our protocols outline the research questions we aim to answer in our health technology assessments and the methods we will use to answer them. Find out more about our upcoming work!

Expansion of the childhood immunisation schedule



We are considering the impact of adding the chickenpox vaccine to the routine childhood immunisation schedule. We have been requested to undertake this HTA by the Department of Health with support from the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC).

The HTA will assess the clinical effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, budget impact, ethical and social aspects, and organisational changes associated with adding the vaccine.

Approximately 56,000 children would be eligible for vaccination each year. While the clinical course for chickenpox is mild in most children, serious complications can occur. Every year, a small proportion of people require admission to hospital for treatment.





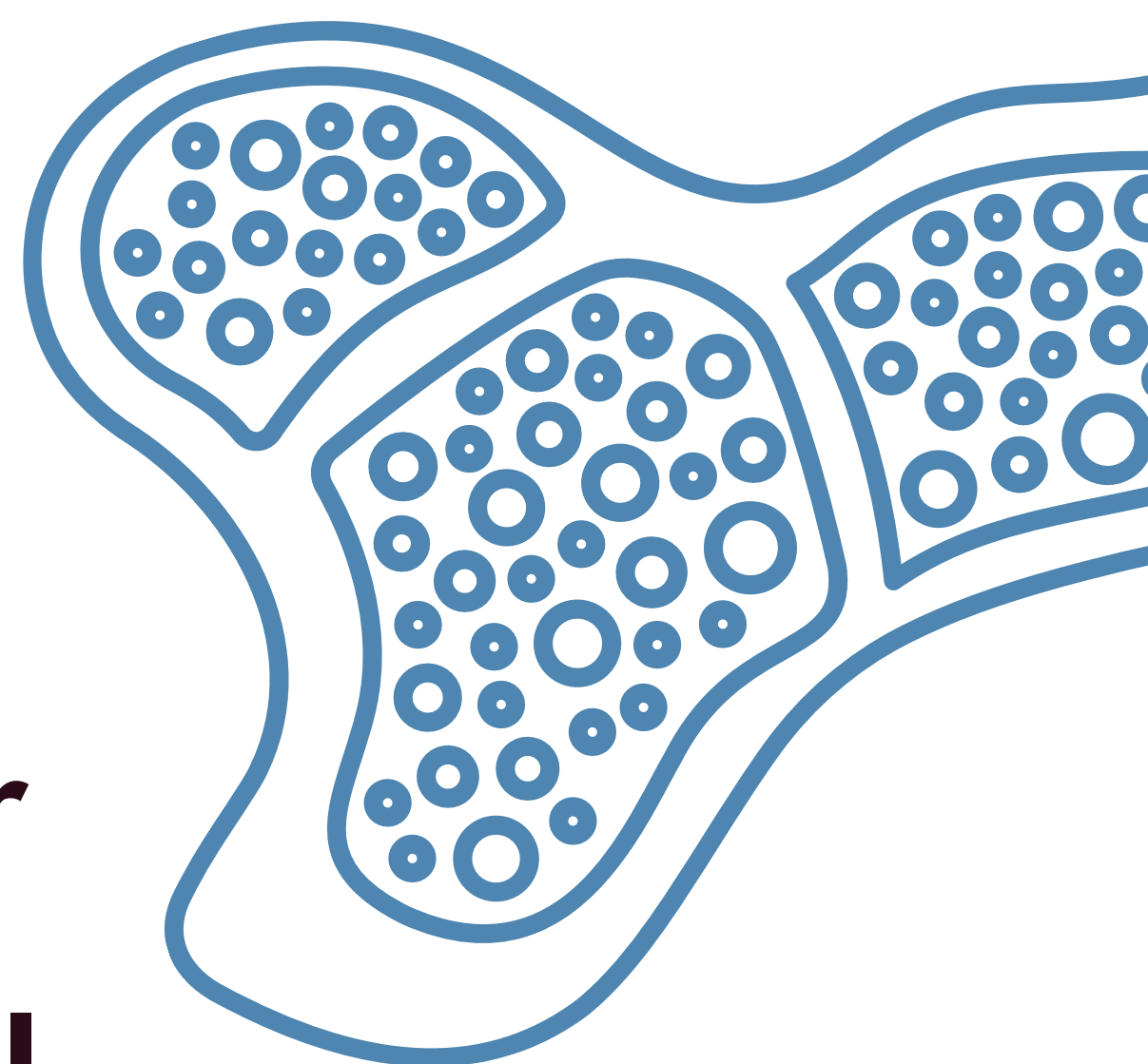
Repatriation of paediatric haematopoietic stem cell transplant services to Ireland

We are examining the possibility of expanding the use of bone marrow transplants in Ireland for children.

Patients with conditions other than bone marrow failure syndromes or haematological malignancies must go abroad to receive care.

Both health technology assessments will be published in due course.

Our HTA will inform the decision on whether transplants to treat children with particular inborn errors of metabolism, inborn errors of immunity, and certain haemoglobinopathies (depending on the form and severity of disease) should be completed in Ireland.





Configuration and reform of Public Health systems

We published a report reviewing the configuration and reform of Public Health systems in the following countries:

Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

The review aims to help inform the work of the Public Health Reform Expert Advisory Group.

The COVID-19 pandemic placed additional stress on health systems. Governments worldwide are now considering how to strengthen their Public Health systems to prepare for future pandemics.

During the pandemic, Public Health was limited to health protection...

Health promotion and wellbeing, health intelligence and health service improvement were placed on the backburner. We recommended that as systems return to “business as usual”, these functions must also be strengthened.



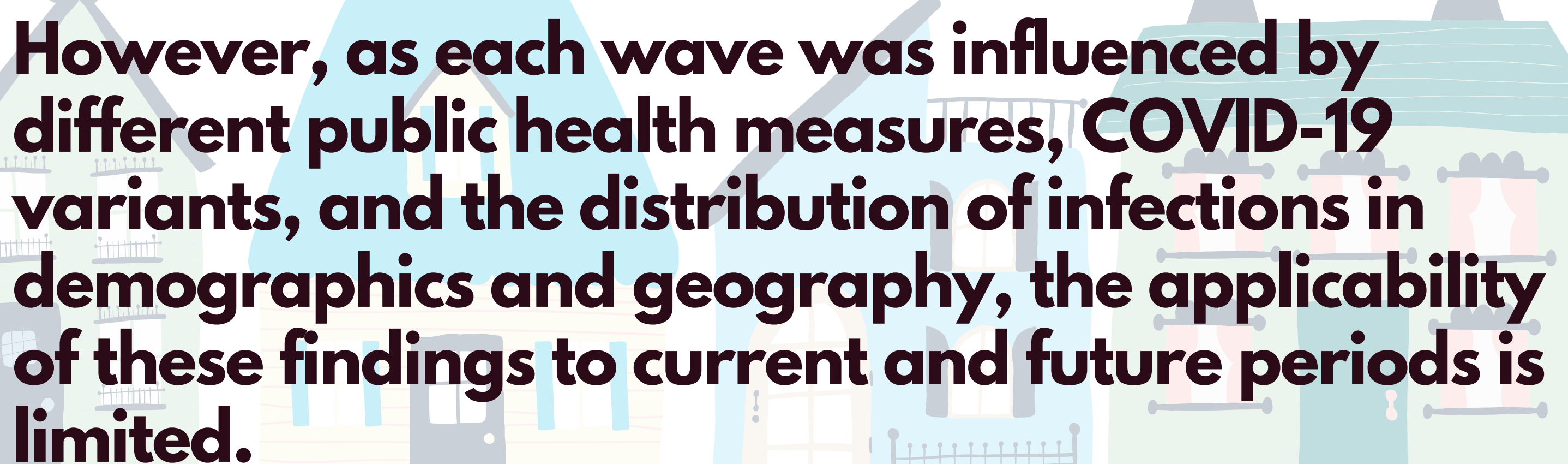
COVID-19 outbreaks in Nursing Homes

In a joint analysis with the Health Protection Surveillance Centre, we updated our review into factors associated with outbreaks of SARS-CoV-2 in nursing homes in Ireland to include the third wave.

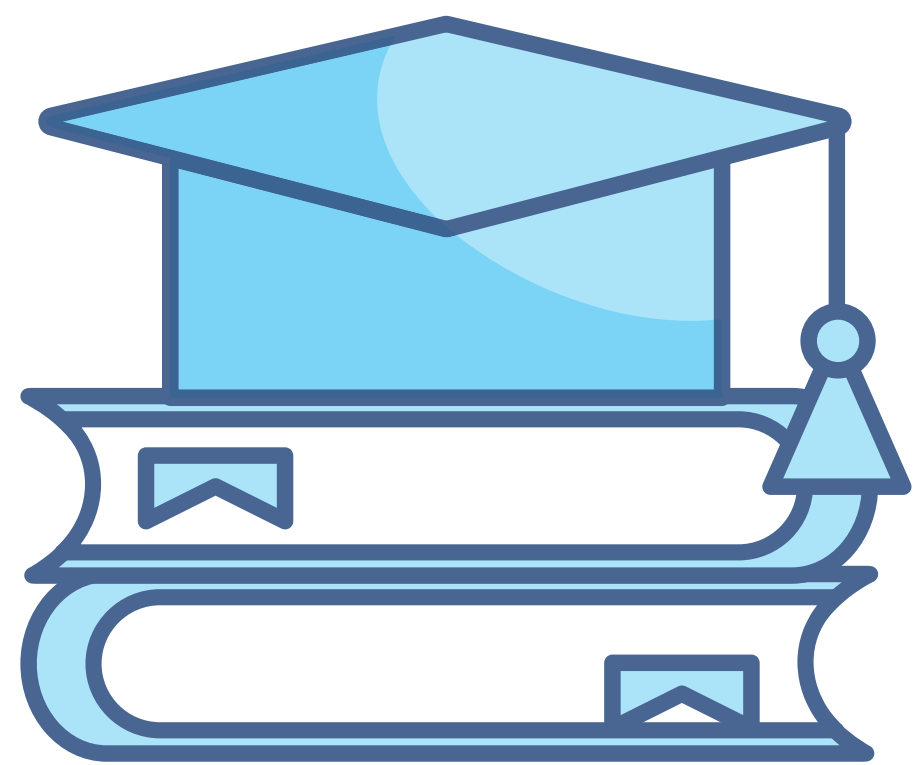
Due to the HSE information systems cyber-attack, the analysis was limited to data up to 12 May 2021.

We found that many of the factors associated with outbreaks in the third wave remained the same as those for the first and second waves

... But we noted that once a nursing home's residents and staff were vaccinated, it was less likely to have an outbreak, and if an outbreak did occur, it was smaller.



However, as each wave was influenced by different public health measures, COVID-19 variants, and the distribution of infections in demographics and geography, the applicability of these findings to current and future periods is limited.



Academic Publications

Since March, we have made our academic publications available on our website.

The dedicated webpage houses our staff's peer-reviewed academic publications in the hopes of making this research more accessible for researchers and members of the public alike.

As part of our vision to inform safer services, better care and decisions and provide independent assessment, we regularly undertake research and publish our work in peer-reviewed academic journals





Academic Publications

Oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to prevent HIV: a systematic review and meta-analysis of clinical effectiveness, safety, adherence and risk compensation in all populations

Date of publication: 12 May 2022

Journal: BMJ Open

Authors: Eamon O Murchu, Liam Marshall, Conor Teljeur, Patricia Harrington, Catherine Hayes, Patrick Moran, Mairin Ryan.

Digital object identifier: DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-048478

Another Step Toward Hepatitis C Elimination: An Economic Evaluation of an Irish National Birth Cohort Testing Program

Date of publication: 28 Jun 2022

Journal: Value in Health

Authors: Paul G. Carty, Conor Teljeur, Cillian F. De Gascun, Paddy Gillespie, Patricia Harrington, Aiden McCormick, Michelle O'Neill, Susan M. Smith, Mairin Ryan.

Digital object identifier: DOI: 10.1016/j.jval.2022.05.010

Perspectives on the production, and use, of rapid evidence in decision making during the COVID-19 pandemic: a qualitative study

Date of publication: 01 Jul 2022

Journal: BMJ Evidence-Based Medicine

Authors: Barbara Clyne, Lisa Hynes, Colette Kirwan, Máire McGeehan, Paula Byrne, Martha Killilea, Susan M Smith, Máirín Ryan, Claire Collins, Michelle O'Neill, Emma Wallace, Andrew W Murphy, Maureen E Kelly

Digital object identifier: DOI: 10.1136/bmjebm-2021-111905



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