

CORONAVIRUS COVID 19



Members briefing no 2 16th March 2020

We had our first meeting of the newly established European Covid-19 Task Force at 11am 16th March 2020. The first important point to note is that to date, trade in our sector across the European single market has not been interrupted to any significant extent and all feed businesses are fully operational. This has been facilitated by the hygiene/biosecurity practices that have been implemented within feed business. Our common objective is to ensure this continues.

The first telco enabled the most affected countries (Italy and Spain) to share with their colleagues practical experience in the implementation of measures. The following are some key points from our Italian and Spanish counterparts.

General

1. Staff & drivers temperature testing before entering facility.
2. Close all public areas where possible but where this is not possible take all necessary preventative action.
3. Ensuring sanitizers for all common areas.
4. Ensuring Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) where staff are unable to comply with the 2 metres (6.5 feet) minimum distance while following WHO recommendations on [rational use of PPE](#).
5. Implementing effective zoning / area splitting, at feed mill level to avoid contact between different worker groups and between shifts.
6. Setting up of two panel rooms where possible
7. Cleaning down key boards and hand surface areas (door handles etc) with sanitary wipes in panel room before the next shift start. Discard wipes after use.
8. Canteen tables that had seats for 4 are now set up for two people so employees do not sit across from each other.
9. If water coolers or coffee machines are on site, only one member of staff is allowed use the machine at a time. The machine should be cleaned with sanitary wipes after every use.
10. Separate canteen and toilet facilities for key staff.
11. Preventing external visitors from direct site access.
12. Home office work for all staff that do not need to be on site.

Drivers

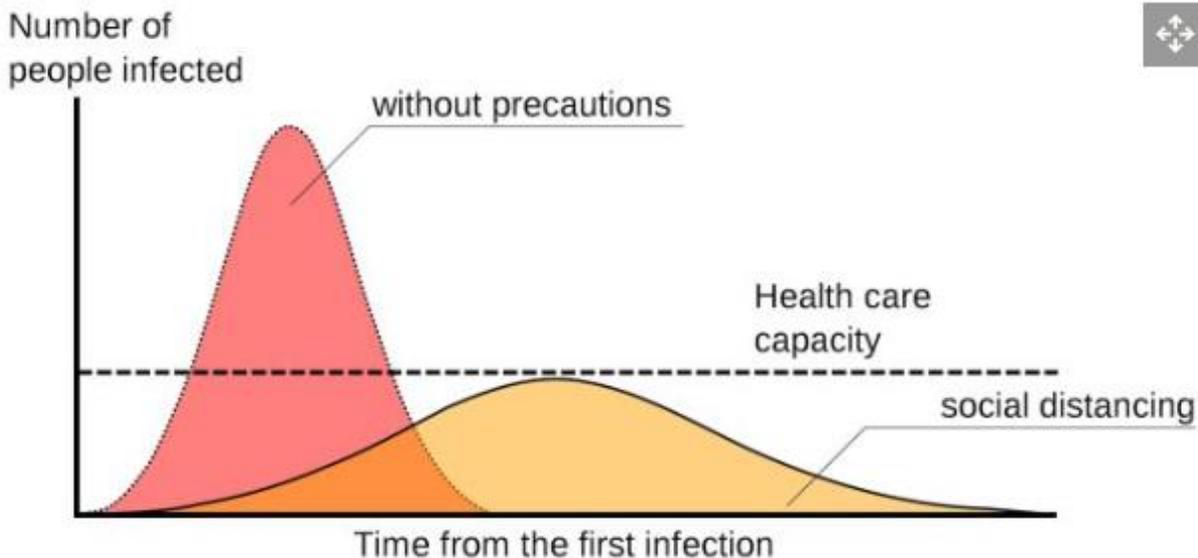
1. Remain in cab wherever possible
2. Adhere to social distancing of 2 metres (6.5 feet) if you have to get out of cab
3. Personnel Protective Equipment to be worn by driver if the 2 metres (6.5 feet) minimum distance cannot be implemented, while following WHO recommendation on [rational use of PPE](#)
4. Separate canteen and toilet for hauliers/drivers
5. Have consignment details / public health permit (where relevant) ready for inspection

Links and Terminology

Social distancing: Social distancing is important to help slow the spread of coronavirus. It does this by minimising contact between potentially infected individuals and healthy individuals. Social distancing is keeping a space of 2 metres (6.5 feet) between you and other people. Do not shake hands or make close contact if possible(HSE)

Flattening the curve

The "curve" researchers are talking about refers to the projected number of people who will contract COVID-19 over a period of time. Here's what it one looks like:



Irish Government site updated regularly

1. <https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/c36c85-covid-19-coronavirus/>
2. <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>
3. <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/press/pressreleases/2020/march/title,140467,en.html>

International sites

1. [OIE Q & A](#)
2. [ECDC Europe](#)
3. [CDC USA](#)
4. [EFSA food & feed not a source of Covid 19](#)