10. Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR)

Summary

- The highest ever annual number of notifications was recorded on CIDR in 2016 (n=33,170). Zika virus infection became notifiable in May 2016 and was added to the diseases notified via CIDR, bringing the total to 77 diseases of all 84 notifiable diseases
- The average number of active CIDR users in 2016 was 269
- A full IS27001 Information Security re-accreditation audit was performed and certification was retained
- 47 new users were trained and 6 existing users received advanced training during 2016
- 3 CIDR Web application releases were deployed during 2016
- CIDR was available for 99.8% of core working hours during 2016
- A failover / failback test of the CIDR Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity infrastructure completed successfully
- Phase 1 of a project to develop a STI / HIV Clinic Module on CIDR was completed

CIDR OPERATIONS

INFORMATION SECURITY ACCREDITATION

The HPSC Information Security Management System (ISMS) which includes CIDR was fully re-accredited in April 2016 to ISO 27001:2013 standard.

The HPSC Information Governance Framework, which includes CIDR, provides re-assurance to users and partners of the CIDR system, the Data Protection Commissioner and the data subjects relating to sensitive data stored and managed by the system. Maintenance of this accreditation standard is vital to information security.

CIDR USER TRAINING

Forty-seven new CIDR users were trained during 2016. There were 35 public health users and 12 laboratory users trained. Six existing public health users received advanced application training during 2016.

CIDR APPLICATION SOFTWARE UPDATES AND SYSTEM AVAILABILITY

Three functional releases of the CIDR Web Application software were deployed during 2016 - in February, June and July. These were made to improve performance, browser compatibility, session management and security.

CIDR availability was 99.8% during core working hours in

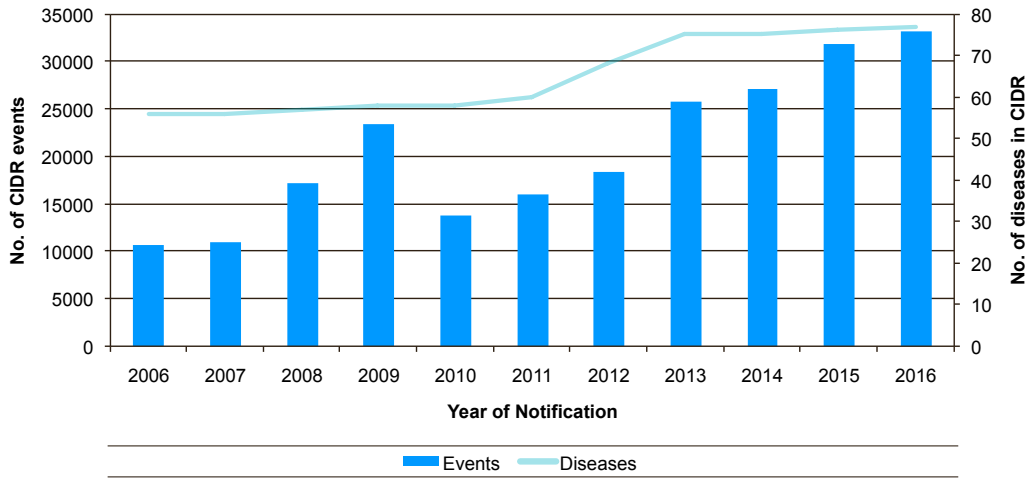

Figure 1. The volume of statutory infectious disease notifications and corresponding number of diseases in CIDR per year, since 2006 when national implementation commenced (as of 21st August, 2017)

2016. 71% of down-time was scheduled; either between 13:00 and 14:00 or outside core working hours; with users aware in advance of service interruptions. Un-scheduled down-time amounted to 4 hours of service unavailability during core working hours over the year.

CIDR DISASTER RECOVERY / BUSINESS CONTINUITY

A successful failover / failback test to the off-premises CIDR disaster recovery infrastructure was completed in February 2016. The test confirmed that the system may be failed over, continue to operate, and failed back to the main infrastructure in the event of unexpected or prolonged unavailability.

CIDR STI / HIV CLINIC MODULE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

In conjunction with the Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme (SHCPP), a project team was assembled in July 2016 to address phase one of a multi-phase project intended to contribute to successful implementation of the Sexual Health Strategy by delivering a major improvement in the quality of the information available for monitoring sexual ill-health. The objectives of Phase 1 of the project were:

- To complete a feasibility assessment of the capacity for electronic surveillance based on an analysis of existing STI/HIV clinics and systems in Ireland, documenting existing processes and the capabilities of the systems to provide data for surveillance
- To define the dataset(s) feasible for extraction for surveillance
- To complete Requirements and Functional Specifications for the development of a STI/HIV clinic module on CIDR

This project was completed in 2016 and pending funding approval, will move to phase 2, to include system development in 2017.

GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

The National CIDR Steering Group continued to provide guidance and oversight of CIDR through 2016 and met by teleconference on four occasions during the year. The National CIDR User Group convened on four occasions throughout the year, also by teleconference, to discuss the on-going use of CIDR and associated developments.

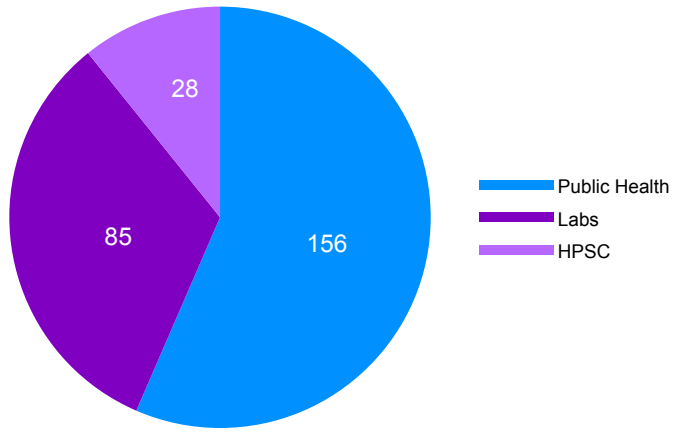

Figure 2. The number of users of the CIDR system in Departments of Public Health, in diagnostic and reference laboratories and in HPSC in 2016 (total=269)