

# OXFORD-RCGP RSC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE FROM PROF. SIMON DE LUSIGNAN,  
DIRECTOR OF THE OXFORD-RCGP RSC

## *Introducing David Hewitt, our newly promoted Practice Liaison Officer*



Nice to meet you all, I'm David Hewitt and it's a pleasure to be the most recent member of the wonderful PLO team having spent the last few months working in the office on a TSS contract and fully integrating into the group.

I bring with me five years of experience living and working in South Korea as an English teacher, which shaped my adaptability and global outlook, even if my Korean language skills never quite caught up.

My academic and professional interests have always gravitated toward history, primarily examining different time periods, ideas, and contexts that inform the present. I particularly like overlooked time periods or events which often provide the most intriguing lessons that larger historical narratives tend to miss.

Beyond work, I'm an avid follower of Formula 1 and remain hopeful for the resurgence of Williams, back to the glory days of when they were winning and based in Didcot.

I look forward to this next chapter and to collaborating closely with colleagues and partners, drawing on both professional experience and personal passions to contribute meaningfully to our shared goals.

Here's to the future!

# Practice-based Clinical Pharmacists

## *Input required*

Clinical pharmacists have a substantial and growing role within many practices, delivering medication reviews and other valuable aspects of medicines management. But, perhaps surprisingly, there is very little known about their experience of working in practices and what is required to improve the service they deliver.

We would be really grateful if you could ask any clinical pharmacists based in your practice to complete the following brief, anonymous online survey being undertaken by colleagues at the University of Exeter ([https://exe.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_40LOPvFIHL5Nfng](https://exe.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_40LOPvFIHL5Nfng)). It only takes about 8-9 minutes, and will help inform the design of future planned research to help practices get the most out of this valuable resource

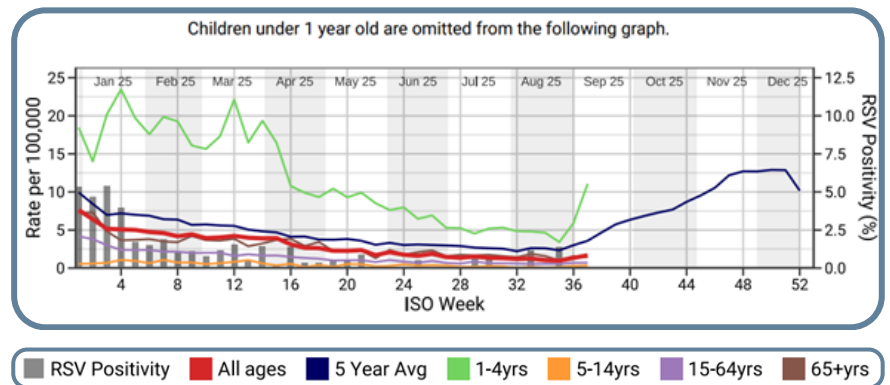
## Incidences of RSV

In issue 153 of our Sampling is Informing we had a look at the increase of Bronchitis amongst 1-4 year olds and the corresponding increased incidence of RSV infection.

Our team will be monitoring this condition.

We are asking our designated sampling practices to be vigilant and increase their sampling in the following groups:

- Children <5 with acute bronchitis/bronchiolitis and wheeze; and
- RSV vaccinated groups (pregnant women and adults over 75 years)



## Article of the Week

### Economic impact of RSV infections in young children attending primary care: a prospective cohort study in five European countries, 2021 to 2023

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) can cause severe respiratory illness in young children. New immunisation methods to prevent RSV infection were approved in 2022 and 2023, but economic evaluations are needed to ensure cost-effectiveness. While most RSV infections are managed in primary care, data on associated costs are limited. Our aim was to examine the costs of RSV in outpatient care in five European countries during the 2021–23 seasons.

We observed that RSV infections treated outside of hospitals are costly in children under 5 years, but the costs vary substantially between countries. The main drivers of these costs are repeated doctor visits and parents missing work to care for their sick child. Healthcare costs are generally higher for infants, whereas work-related costs for parents are higher for children 1–5 years.

[Read the full article here](#)

