



OCTOBER 2025 / ISSUE 228



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

Introducing Dan Gallaher, our newly promoted Practice Liaison Officer



Hello! My name is Dan Gallaher and I'm excited to share that I will soon be taking up the position of Practice Liaison Officer / Research Facilitator.

I started working for the RSC in March 2025 and some of you may have encountered me supporting with our payments inbox or discussing our datasharing agreements.

Outside of the office, I am passionate about cricket and I am counting down the days until the new season. My greatest sporting achievement took place very recently and I am pleased to record for posterity that I am the reigning champion of the Old Bookbinders Pub Quiz.

Over the short term, I want to learn how to become more 'green-fingered' and to keep my tomato plants alive through the winter. Over the longer term, I am nurturing a bigger ambition to pick up sailing. If you encounter me on Farmoor reservoir, please do give me a wide berth.

It has been lovely to work with all of you over the pass few months. Long may it continue!

<u>Visiting the RCGP</u>

This week, some of our team had the opportunity to visit our colleagues at the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) to collaborate on our marketing communications for the new season.

It is always wonderful to have that face to face time with people. Our day at the RCGP was enjoyable and productive.



Bristol Lab Joins Virology Sampling



We are excited to announce that a second laboratory for UKHSA's commissioned virology sampling launched this Monday, 29 September, in Bristol.

The incorporation of this additional laboratory pathway, enables us to expand our sampling capabilities using different digital solutions. It also allows some local Bristol practices to use their ICE pathway to request virology tests and receive results. Additionally, from this week onwards, all TakeATest UK (TATUK) samples will also be tested at the Bristol North laboratory.

This is great progress for our surveillance service, to have two UKHSA laboratories testing for virology. We look forward to keeping you all updated with the progress of this new journey.

Article of the Week

Understanding the Clinical Characteristics and Timeliness of Diagnosis for Patients Diagnosed With Long Covid: A Retrospective Observational Cohort Study From North West London

Long Covid is a multisystem condition first identified in the Covid-19 pandemic, characterised by a wide range of symptoms including fatigue, breathlessness and cognitive impairment. Considerable disagreement exists in who is most at risk of developing long Covid, driven in part by incomplete coding of a long Covid diagnosis in medical records.

The object is to describe the incidence and impact of long Covid through a retrospective observational cohort study.

Read the full article here