

OXFORD-RCGP RSC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



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

Your Oxford-RCGP RSC Team: Dr. Uy Hoang

Welcome everyone, I am a public health specialist and lead researcher for our surveillance theme. I joined back in 2016 and am now experiencing my 9th winter season with the group.

My role within the group is to provide epidemiological support and a public health overview to our work on chronic and infectious diseases.

Alongside specialist training at the Oxford School of Public Health, I also have a doctorate in clinical epidemiology from King's College London and a Masters in Public Health from Yale University.

Previously, I have worked in the clinical areas of stroke and mental health research, leveraging real world data to influence public policy and improve front line care. I now lead the surveillance theme within the research group, this is a multidisciplinary team of doctoral and post-doctoral researchers, clinicians, data managers and project managers working on primary care surveillance and infectious disease epidemiology. Our work on studies such as ObservatARI and IID3 are helping policy makers better understand the burden of infectious disease in primary care and shaping policies around vaccination, infection control and food standards.

Outside of work, I like to keep fit by hiking and cycling, and am a keen amateur photographer.

Our team are very to chat with you about collaborative research ideas around infectious diseases and health surveillance in primary care. Please do feel free to reach out to us directly or chat with our friendly practice liaison team about ways you can get involved in our research.



TakeA TestUK Virology Swabbing Pathway

Our **Take-A-Test-UK patient self-swabbing** pathway is a great way to encourage all of your patients to request a swab kit at the earliest signs of flu. The reimbursement to practices for all valid samples received to the laboratory via this pathway is £12.50 per sample

We ask that practices promote this on their websites and social media - <https://takeatestuk.com/>. Do feel free to tag any of our social accounts. **We now have social media assets for practices to use to promote this service. Please ask our Practice Liaison Team.**

Please include your ODS practice code in your promotion of the pathway, as patients are required to enter this as the mandatory 'Voucher code'. Patients will also need to enter their NHS number to request a self-swab kit.

For advice and queries relating to virology sampling, please contact **Dave** and **Ellya** at practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk

Sampling Resources - Posters & Information Leaflets

We have been working hard lately to update our patient facing materials, and, create new ones such as social media assets for virology, serology and Take-A-Test-UK and a sampling poster targeted at children.

With the exception of the social media assets, all of these new and updated materials can be found on our [Information for Patients](#) page of our website. They can also be requested through our Practice Liaison Team.

Proof in Practice, London

Primary care's role in the future of research design and delivery

We had the pleasure of attending the first Proof in Practice event at 30 Euston Square, London. Our Practice Liaison Officer, Dr Timea Suli, attended a series of engaging talks, centring on the role of primary care, understanding where health is generated and maintained, and how research plays a vital role in answering these questions.

Data show that 600 million contacts from patients to health services are made within a year, with 58% of these contact points made in primary care. This speaks to how important primary care is to maintaining health for patients, as well as protecting the roles and responsibilities of our general practices.

The RSC are proud to play a part in supporting research in primary care and encourage our member practices to get involved in our research and surveillance opportunities.

