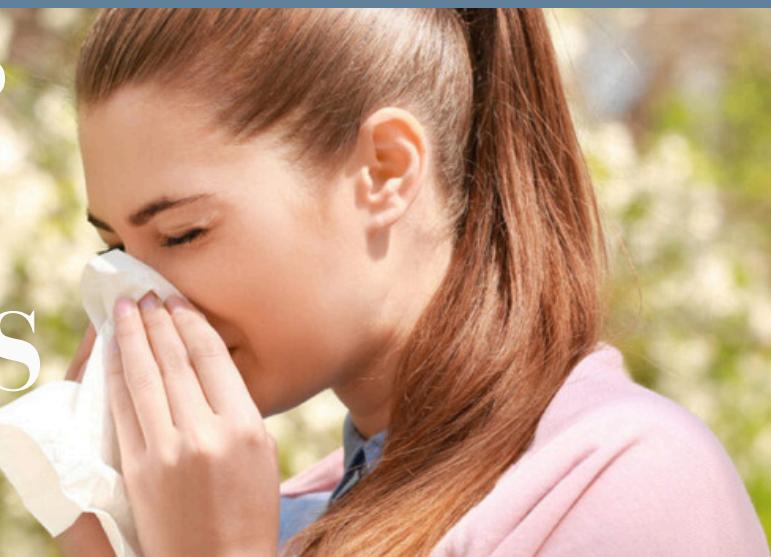




DECEMBER 2025 / ISSUE 238

# 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. Xinchun Gu*

I joined the RSC as a researcher in 2023, shortly after completing my PhD. With a background in pharmacy and expertise in epidemiology, I use large-scale electronic health records and advanced analytical methods to generate evidence on respiratory infectious diseases and vaccines. I also have a growing interest in AI, particularly in applying machine learning and large language models to support clinical decision-making and optimise treatment pathways. Please do get in touch ([xinchun.gu@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:xinchun.gu@phc.ox.ac.uk)) if you'd like to learn more about my work or collaborate on exciting research questions!

I enjoy working closely with colleagues across the RSC and wider academic and public health partners to support our shared mission of improving patient care through high-quality data and research. I also wrote the four most recent RSC annual reports.

Outside of work, I am a violinist with the Radcliffe Orchestra in Oxford. We rehearse and perform regular concerts at the John Radcliffe Hospital to raise funds for local charities, something that brings me great joy and balance alongside my research.



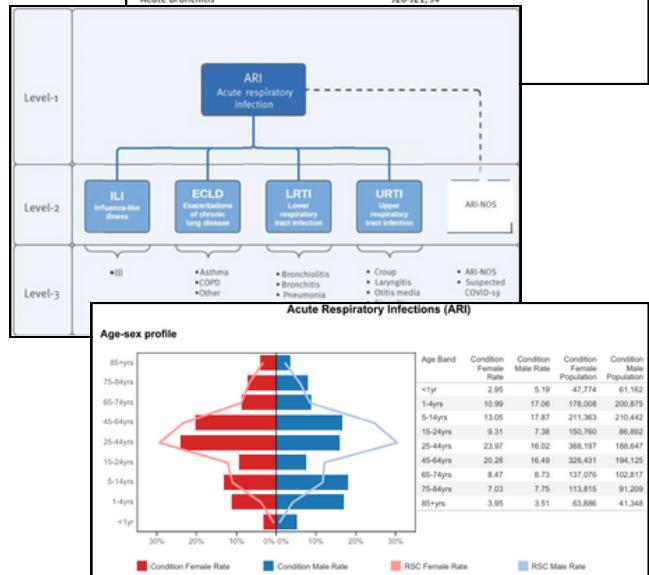
# RSC Annual Report

This Annual Report describes how data from primary care underpins national surveillance of infections and respiratory illness, helping to detect emerging threats and inform vaccination policy. It reflects the collective contribution of Oxford-RCGP RSC member practices, showing how everyday clinical data and sampling support outbreak detection, understanding of pressures in primary care, and public health decision-making. The report provides a clear picture of the role general practice plays in surveillance and research, and the impact this work continues to have beyond individual practices.

The reports can be accessed here: [RSC Annual Reports](#)

Table 1. The 41 conditions / groups of conditions monitored by RCGP RSC network and their mappings to the World Health Organisation's (WHO) International Classification of Disease version 10 (ICD-10)

Condition Name	ICD-10
1. Water and Food Borne Disorders	
Intestinal Infections	A00-A0
Viral Hepatitis	B15-B19
Non-infective Enteritis / Colitis	K50-K52
2. Environmentally Sensitive Disorders	
Asthma	J45-J46
Conjunctivitis	H10-H13
Hay fever / Allergic Rhinitis	J30
Infected Insect Bites	T14
3. Respiratory Infections	
Acute Respiratory Infections	
Acute Bronchitis	Through algorithm J20-J21; J4



## Diagnosing COPD in the UK

[Survey about COPD diagnosis](#) for completion by GPs and any other HCPs involved in COPD diagnosis e.g. nurses or pharmacists. We are particularly looking for views from places where spirometry isn't available in the GP practice and from people who don't have a special respiratory interest, as well as those who do.

It looks long at first glance but lots of the questions skip through if you aren't delivering a spirometry service. There's a chance to win one of four **£50 gift vouchers**. We are keeping it open for an extra week or so to allow some more responses, so please complete ASAP!

**Please complete this survey about COPD diagnosis and spirometry**

We need to know more about what is happening in terms of spirometry provision and COPD diagnosis across the UK – to be able to understand the current spirometry situation, the challenges and ways it could be improved

We want to hear from **EVERYONE** involved in COPD diagnosis in the UK (Generalists and specialists; primary and secondary care; all clinical backgrounds)

Do you have access to spirometry for your patients in primary care? How confident do you feel interpreting the results?

If you perform spirometry, do you feel confident in what you are doing?

In secondary care, do you trust spirometry which has been done in primary care?

**CLICK HERE**  <https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/oxford/diagnosing-copd-in-the-uk>

Takes ~15-20 minutes depending on how much detail you give  
Smartphone-friendly – complete it on the go!  
Optional prize draw to win one of four £50 gift vouchers  
Closes end of November 2025

## Material Requests

A gentle reminder that our Practice Liaison Team now place orders for surveillance serology and virology materials on behalf of practices based on sampling targets.

If you feel you are running low on kits, please contact us here: [practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk).

Please be advised, the cut off for orders before Christmas is the **16<sup>th</sup> December**.

