



# OXFORD-RCGP RSC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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

## *Wishing you all a very happy holiday season*

To our dedicated network and readers,

Thank you for your hard work throughout 2025. We look forward to continuing our collaboration in the New Year.

We hope you all have a merry and safe festive period and a Happy New Year.

We will be working with a limited team between now and the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2026. Please send any urgent queries to the Practice Liaison inbox: [practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk)

Best Wishes

Your RSC Team



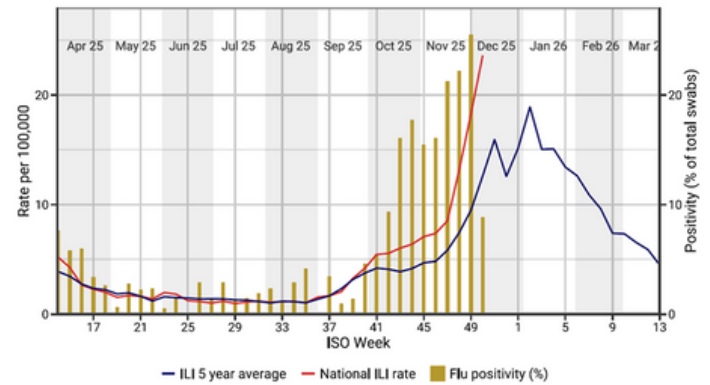
## *Sampling Positivity*

As always, we are grateful for the data and samples that you, our network practices, provide on a daily basis.

We'd like to take this opportunity to have a look at why it is so important to us this time of year.

Sampling data is showing that almost 1 in 3 swabs taken since the beginning of December is returning a positive result. Data like this is vital for tracking the spread of respiratory viruses and the effectiveness of vaccines to limit their spread.

(B) RCGP/UKHSA influenza virology swab surveillance



## *Professional Engagement*

We are always looking for feedback from primary care professionals to co-produce and develop our surveillance and research work. We would love to hear views from across the general practice workforce.

If you have not yet put your name forward for our Professional Engagement, don't worry, we are still looking for collaborators.

For further details and our sign up form, please visit our [Professional Engagement](#) page.

## *Article of the Week*

### Assessing the association between COVID-19 vaccination and thrombotic thrombocytopenia syndrome (ATTEST Study): Analyses of English data, 2020-2022

COVID-19 vaccine surveillance detected thrombotic thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS), a rare combination of thrombosis and thrombocytopenia, after COVID-19 vaccination. We evaluated TTS risk within 28 days of AZD1222 and BNT162b2 exposure.

Matched case-control (MCCS) and self-controlled case series (SCCS) studies used Oxford-Royal College of General Practitioners Research and Surveillance Centre data linked to immunisation, hospitalisation and death data. English patient records extracted from 2/12/2020 to 31/10/2022 were used to identify TTS cases and age, sex, and practice matched controls. Conditional logistic regression and conditional Poisson regression were used for MCCS and SCCS analyses, respectively.

[Read the full article here](#)

