OXFORD-RCGP RSC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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

UKHSA commissioned surveillance sampling 2026-27

A big thanks to our serology and virology sampling practices for contributing samples for 2025-26.

We're pleased to confirm that we have agreed our targets with UKHSA for 2026-27 and will be able to **offer increased virology capacity** to practices. We can onboard practices this **Spring**, for a new in-practice swabbing pathway, please contact us at practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk to find out more.

Research Ready

Research Ready® is a quality assurance programme for all research-active UK GP practices. It is designed in line with the UK Research Governance Framework's legal, ethical, professional, and patient safety requirements. The programme serves to provide information, support, guidance and accreditation to practices in research; both to assist with meeting the requirements above, and with considering and conducting research.

Research Ready® gives access to training and support for the whole practice team to upskill them to engage with research. It can be used by all practice staff, both clinical and non-clinical (GPs, nurses, practice management, administrators).

If you would would like to know more about Research Ready, please contact The Royal College of General Practitioners, or visit this link.

Article of the Week

Prediction of COVID-19 hospitalisation, ICU admission or death following ChAdOx1 vaccination using artificial intelligence: A clinical predictive model from the English RAVEN study

This study identifies predictors of severe COVID-19 following completion of two-dose primary series of the AZD1222 COVID-19 vaccine, employing eXtreme Gradient Boosting (XGBoost) and Shapely additive explanations (SHAP), as an explainable artificial intelligence (AI) approach.

A retrospective cohort study using linked primary care data from the Oxford-Royal College of General Practitioners Clinical Informatics Digital Hub (ORCHID), including computerised medical records of over 19 million people in England, for the period from 8th December 2020–31st December 2021, as part of the Real-world effectiveness of the AZD1222 COVID-19 vaccine in England (RAVEN) study. We evaluated a two-dose primary series of the AZD1222 vaccine on COVID-19 related hospitalisation, ICU admission or death.

Read the full article here

PPI Event - Oxford - 12th March

Just a reminder that the Pandemic Sciences Institute in Oxford have invited us to speak at their upcoming event.

Event Details: '**Let's Talk About: Surveillance' series**', developed as a collaboration between the History of Science Museum and the Pandemic Sciences Institute in Oxford.

Join us at the History of Science Museum for conversations exploring questions such as 'how do you identify emerging pandemic threats?' and 'how should we navigate everyday data — from social media to wearable devices — being used in public health?'.

Thursday 12th March - 5:30-7:30pm - History of Science Museum, Oxford

Tickets are free but booking is required - **Book here**

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 including: GPs, Nurses, Pharmacists, Advanced Clinical Practitioners, Healthcare Assistants, Social Prescribers, Care Coordinators, Practice Managers, PCN Managers, Digital Leads, and Receptionists.

Complete this **form** to sign up to our contact list