

# OXFORD-RCGP RSC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



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

## *The BJGP Conference 2026*

The BJGP Conference 2026 in Bristol was a well-structured and engaging one-day event, offering a valuable opportunity to reflect on current developments in research within general practice. The programme combined keynote talks and presentations with interactive workshops, creating a good balance between practical learning and wider discussion.

A highlight of the day was the keynote by our colleague, Rebecca Payne, from University of Oxford's Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences. Her session on "Achieving influence and impact: getting your research to result in change" emphasised the importance of being more intentional in how research is communicated and used. She highlighted that, for research to have meaningful impact, careful thought needs to be given to how findings are shared, who they reach, and how they contribute to decision-making—whether through engagement with policymakers, collaboration with media, or making outputs more accessible beyond academic settings.

The conference also provided a valuable platform to promote the work of the RSC, particularly in engaging with medical students and early-career clinicians. It was encouraging to showcase the research opportunities and capabilities we can offer, while also reconnecting with colleagues from the RCGP, including Emily Powell. If you are interested, you can watch the BJGP Conference highlights here: [\(8\) BJGP conference highlights, 2026 - YouTube](#)



## Upcoming webinar series

We have planned a webinar series for our network practices.

The first webinar will take place on **22nd April 2026**, titled: A Reintroduction to the RSC

The series of topics are as follows:

**April:** Reintroduction to the RSC

**May:** Importance of Data Sharing, Storage and Usage

**June:** Vaccine Recording: Missed Opportunities

**July:** Study Retrospective: IID3 and ObservatARI



We invite you all to attend every webinar if you can. Please use this [form](#) to express your interest.

## Vacancy at The Royal College of General Practitioners

Clinical Lead for Data and Digital

The RCGP are now recruiting a new Clinical Lead for Data and Digital to join their policy team, which is part of their Policy, Research and Campaigns department.

**Part-time, Fixed Term Contract - Three years**

**4 sessions / 16 hours per week**

**Location: hybrid with ideally one day per week in London office (preference for Wednesday or Thursday)**

**Closing date: 9.00am, Tuesday 07 April 2026**

**Interview dates: 14th, 15th or 17th April TBC - preference for in person**



If this role is of interest to you, please follow this [link](#) or contact the Royal College of General Practitioners.

## Changes to the Director's Message and Sampling is Informing

We will be merging our **Sampling is Informing** newsletter into our **Director's Message**. The new edition will launch on the **3<sup>rd</sup> of April**.

The final Sampling is Informing issue was sent out on the 24<sup>th</sup> March. Director's Message will continue as it is for now. We appreciate your understanding during this changeover and look forward to your feedback on the new edition in time.

## 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](mailto:practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk) to find out more.

