

OXFORD-RCGP

Quarterly Newsletter

RSC

Your quarterly recap of our practice communications

Welcome to our 2026 quarterly newsletter. Each edition will provide a brief look back at the preceding months.

If there are any segments or topics you have seen over the last few months that you would like more information on then please do let us know.

Events we have attended

We had a very busy and social start to the year.

Our group was delighted to represent the network at events, such as:

- Best Practice, London
- South West SAPC Conference
- ISAB Scientific Symposium
- BJGP Conference
- Let's Talk About: Surveillance, in Swindon and Oxford

We have provided a write up of our experience at these events in previous Director's Messages.



Combination of Sampling is Informing and Director's Message

Last week, we launched our new version of the combined Director's Message and Sampling Is Informing. There will no longer be a Tuesday newsletter. We hope you enjoy the new format and look forward to your feedback.

Conditions of Interest

In the last three months we have seen many conditions of interest in our weekly Sampling is Informing. Key ones of note are:

Mid-March we learned about a **Meningitis** outbreak in Kent where, sadly, two young people have died. The outbreak was linked to a night club in Canterbury and attendees were advised to come forward for prophylactic antibiotics.

Some of the Kent cases were confirmed to be Men B, which has been included in routine childhood immunisations since 2015. This means that adults and schoolchildren over 10 remain unvaccinated against this strain.

In mid-February we reported on the high **Measles** rates, which were seen in the news at the time, confirming an outbreak in London. Many of the cases are in north London, an area which coincides with a low vaccination uptake rate ([Measles outbreak confirmed in London | The BMJ](#)).

Towards the end of March, we noticed an upturn in measles cases after a recent dip. The highest rates remained in London as with the original outbreak, but the upwards trends for the whole of the country suggest that all regions are at risk with the current levels of herd immunity.

Sampling Opportunities

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

We were able to agree new targets with UKHSA for the 2026-27 season. This allows us to offer increased virology capacity to practices. There is still some availability for a new in-practice swabbing pathway.

If it is of interest, please contact us at practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk to find out more.

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

If you are interested in attending, please use this [form](#) to express your interest.

