



NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF  
**PRIMARY CARE**  
HEALTH SCIENCES



Oxford–Royal College of  
General Practitioners  
**CLINICAL INFORMATICS**  
DIGITAL HUB



**RESEARCH &  
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**Your Weekly Update from Simon de Lusignan, Director of RCGP RSC**

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## Let's keep it going!

### Thank you and well done



We are delighted to start today's newsletter off on a very positive note as we have seen a significant increase in the number of swabs received this week (**111**) in comparison to last week (**77**).

We greatly appreciate the efforts from all of the participating practices and are eager to keep this momentum going.

As always, our Practice Liaison Team are here to help you to increase your swab numbers.

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## Spotlight on virology coding and criteria

We often get questions from practices new to sampling about the codes to use and the criteria for swabbing.

Simon has shared his experience this week to illustrate the criteria – 3 quite different examples in one clinic:

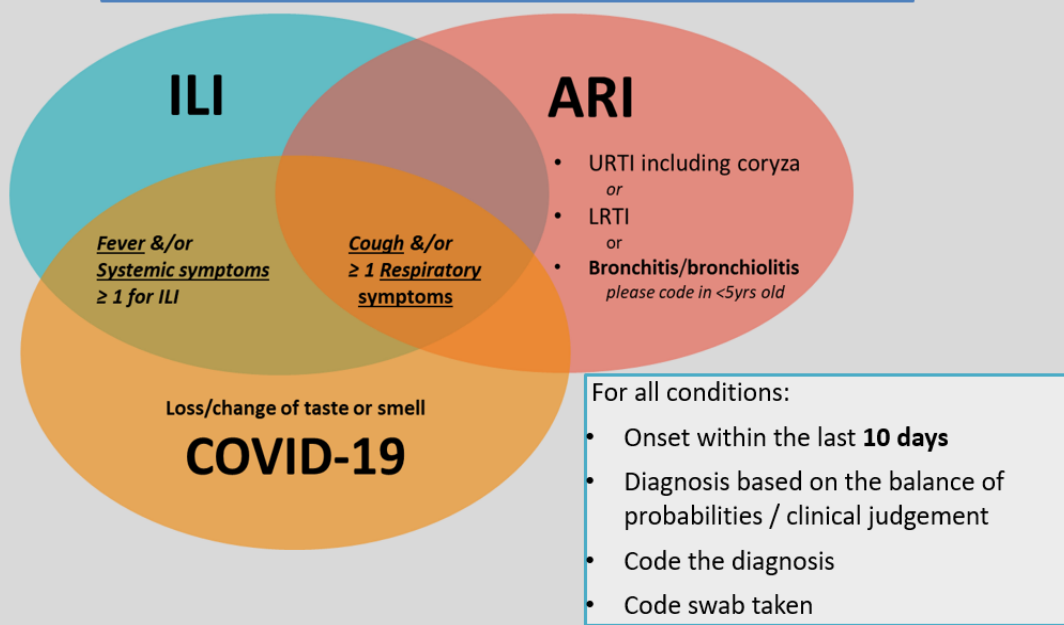
- **ILI** – Man in his 30's with sudden onset of symptoms, cough, temp over 38 at home with headache and myalgia. Chest clear. Patient had symptoms for 6 days. His child had recently had a cough.
- **Bronchiolitis** – Baby under 2 years, sudden onset of cough, off food, drinking, temperature around 38 controlled at home with paracetamol and wheezing. Symptoms for 2 days
- **URTI** – Student, ears and sinuses affected.

Thank you to all practices taking part.

One of our practices was motivated to start swabbing after having an A&E report of a child who had tested positive for Influenza A.... so it is out there!

As a reminder here is the virology criteria:

Please look-out for, swab, and code cases of:  
**influenza-like illness, acute respiratory illness or suspected COVID-19**



## Let's show some appreciation



Do you have a team member that goes above and beyond the call of duty for our virology and/or serology sampling?

If so, we would love to show our appreciation by highlighting this person in our next newsletter.

Please send their name, role and a brief note of praise to our Practice Liaison team: [practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk)

\*\*please ensure you check that they are happy to have their name in our newsletter.

## ClinT Of The Week

Remember, coding is caring! Please code a disease as a problem.



**Acute respiratory infection (disorder)**  
SCTID: 195647007

195647007 | Acute respiratory infection (disorder) |  
Acute respiratory infections  
ARI - Acute respiratory infections  
Acute respiratory infection  
Acute respiratory infection (disorder)

## Publication Of The Week



[BMI and HbA1c are metabolic markers for pancreatic cancer: Matched case-control study using a UK primary care database](#)

Weight loss, hyperglycaemia and diabetes are known features of pancreatic cancer. The team quantified the timing and the amount of changes in body mass index (BMI) and glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c), and their association with pancreatic cancer from five years before diagnosis.

Please click the link above for the full publication.