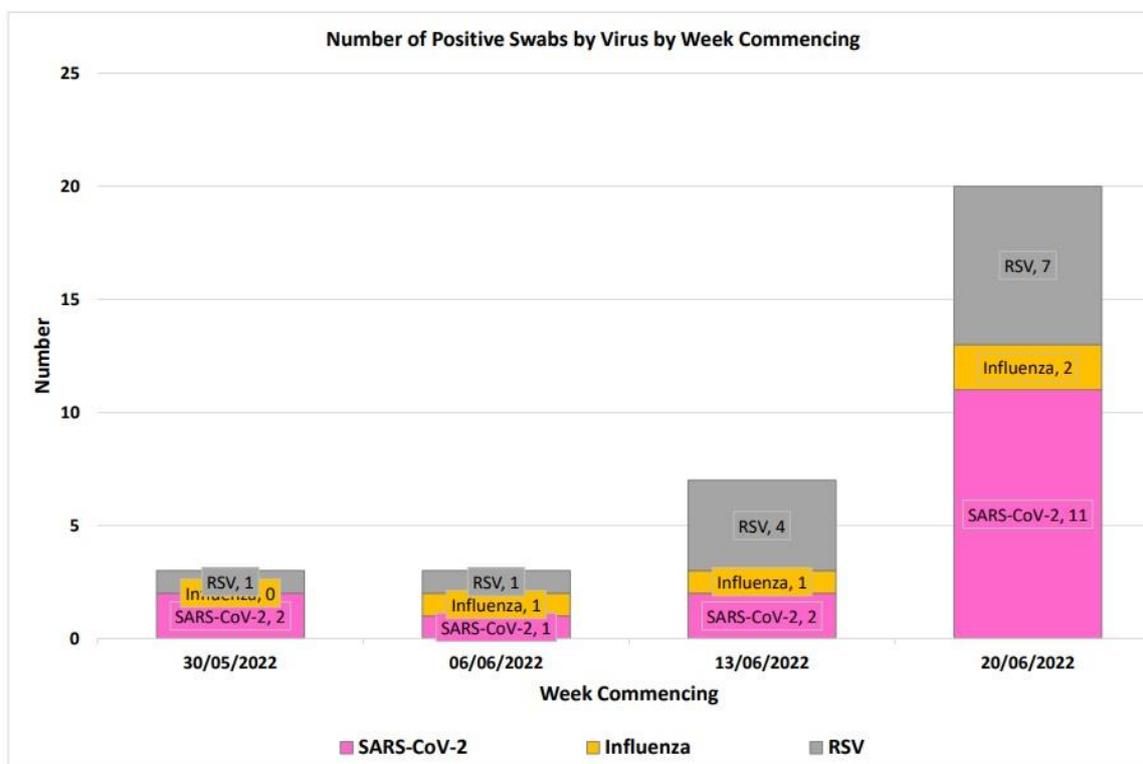


*Your weekly sampling news from our GP colleagues, Dr Debabish Kar, Dr Nick Thomas & Dr Will Elson on behalf of the Oxford RCGP RSC*

# SAMPLING IS INFORMING

## Your Samples How your data contributed recently

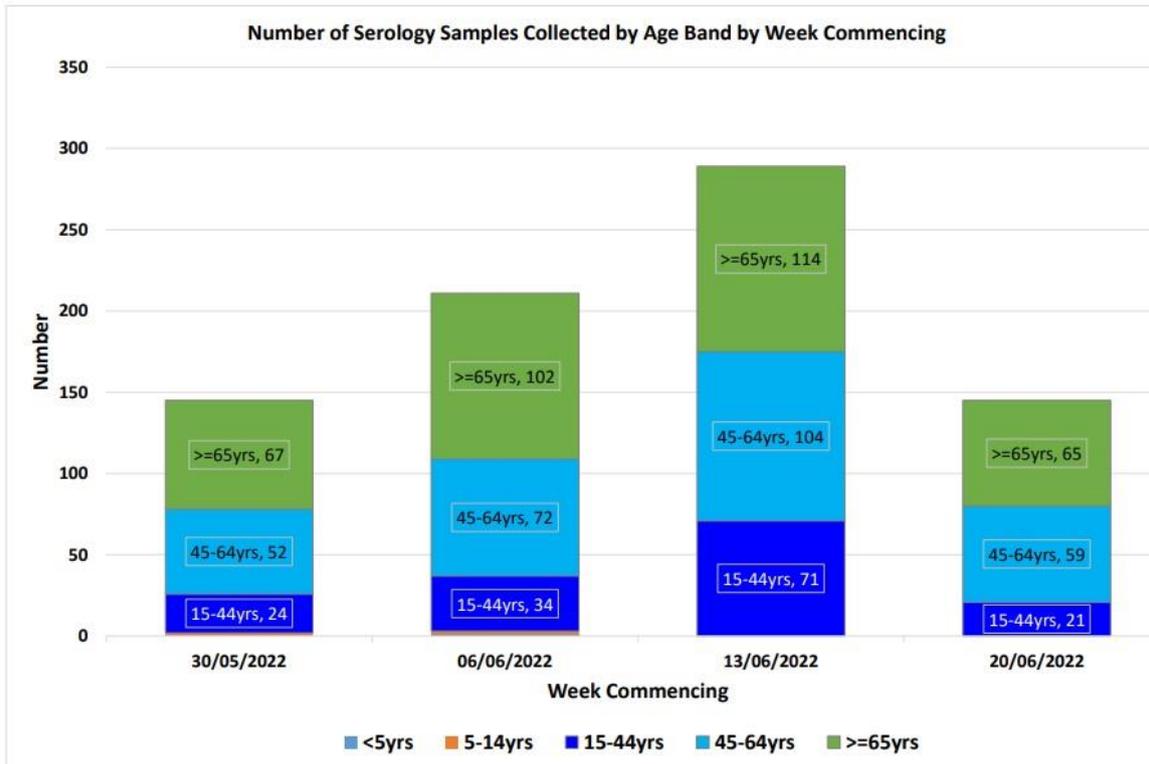
### VIROLOGY



Thank you for continuing to provide samples from your patients – your contribution makes a real difference.

Positive swab results collected from the w/c on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022 suggests that SARS-CoV-2 is the predominant respiratory virus in the community. In the w/c on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022, out of a total of 20 positive swabs, 11 were SARS-CoV-2, 7 were RSV and 2 were influenza.

## SEROLOGY



In the 4 weeks from the w/c on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022 serology sample collection has declined for all age bands. In the w/c on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022, out of 145 serology samples, 65 were >= 65 years, 59 were 45 – 64 years, and 21 were for 15-44 years. Please collect serology samples from the younger age groups. **Our payments for the younger age groups are: £11.00 for 8-17 years and £30.00 for under 8 years.**

**The serology and virology information will guide the UKHSA to decide the immunization programme for the coming months. We appreciate your contribution and would like to encourage you to collect more samples.**

## Sign up for Disease Surveillance

**For any practice that is not yet aware, we no longer limit the number of practices that can take part in our disease surveillance. We are looking for as many as possible to join.**

If you don't currently participate in our disease surveillance, then why not start?

Our surveillance runs all year round, so you can join at any point, and consists of nose and throat swabbing for respiratory illnesses and blood sampling to monitor vaccine effectiveness and immunity research. You can participate in one or both.

**Practices can earn money for every swab and sample provided.**

If you would like further information then please email our practice liaison officers at [practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk)

## Tuesday's Top Tips

*"When things get busy, it's easy for weeks to slip by without a swab.*

*Perhaps nominate a 'Surveillance Champion' to encourage this work."*

This week we have some tips around kits and how you can best use them... and save space!

- When kits arrive, skip the store room and share them to rooms where symptomatic patients are seen so they're in easy reach.
- The liquid in swab tubes only lasts a few months. To cut down on wasted kits, encourage more swabbing as their expiry dates approach.

## We'd Love to Visit Your Practice

### Meet Carole!

Carole is the leader of our Practice Liaison Team and brings a lot of experience to the table. Since joining us in 2021, she's given the team insight into how we can improve the support of our member practices.

We asked Carole about the previous roles she's had throughout her career and how those experiences have shaped the approach she takes to her latest role.



*"My practice experience has been gained over 12 years at various types of practices. I've worked on the south coast with a TPP Practice as the Business Manager working closely with the Practice Nurse teams as well as the GPs. This was followed by some time in London GP practices embedded in the A&E departments of Charing Cross Hospital and Hammersmith Hospital as a Practice Manager. My last Practice Manager role was working in an EMIS Web Practice in Guildford.*

*This background helps me to understand the pressures practices operate under daily but also to know how much the teams have the interest of their patients and the wider community at heart and are motivated to contribute to our surveillance work provided we can support them. I hope to see many of you during my visits and enjoy learning from you how we can improve working together."*

If you'd like to meet Carole or one of her PLO Team members, you can book a practice visit using the button below. It's a great way to find support and kick-start your sampling routine!