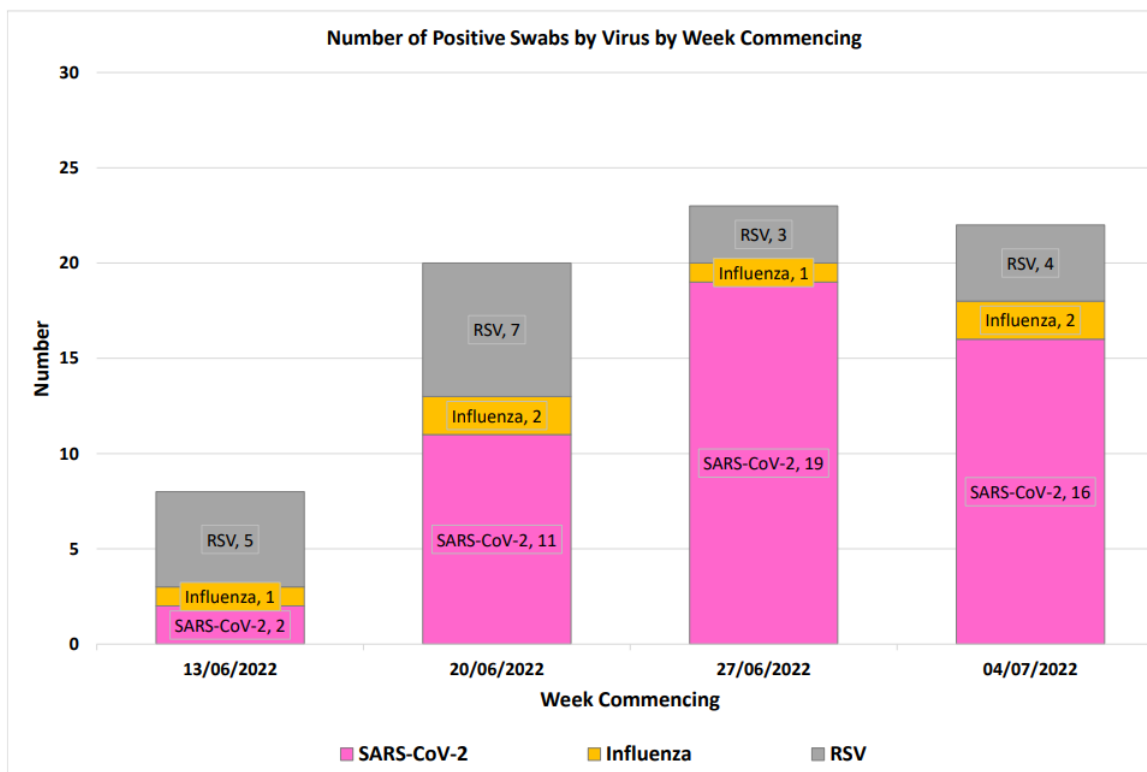


*Your weekly sampling news from our GP colleagues, Dr Debabish Kar, Dr Nick Thomas, Dr Will Elson and Dr Gavin Jamie on behalf of the Oxford RCGP RSC.*

# SAMPLING IS INFORMING

## Our Network's Samples What your data contributed to recently

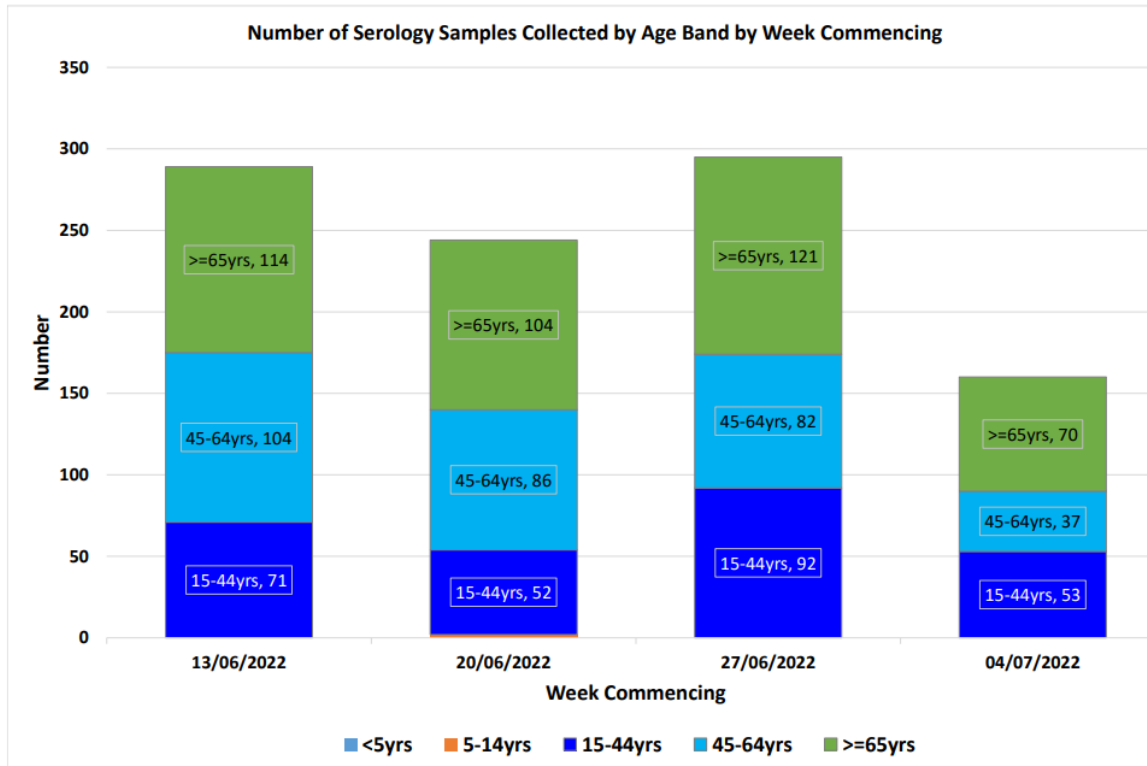
### VIROLOGY



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

Positive swab results reported from the w/c on 13th June 2022 to 4th July 2022 suggest that SARS-CoV-2 is the predominant respiratory virus in the community. In the w/c on 4th July 2022, out of a total of 22 positive swabs, 16 were SARS-CoV-2, 2 were influenza and 4 were respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

## SEROLOGY

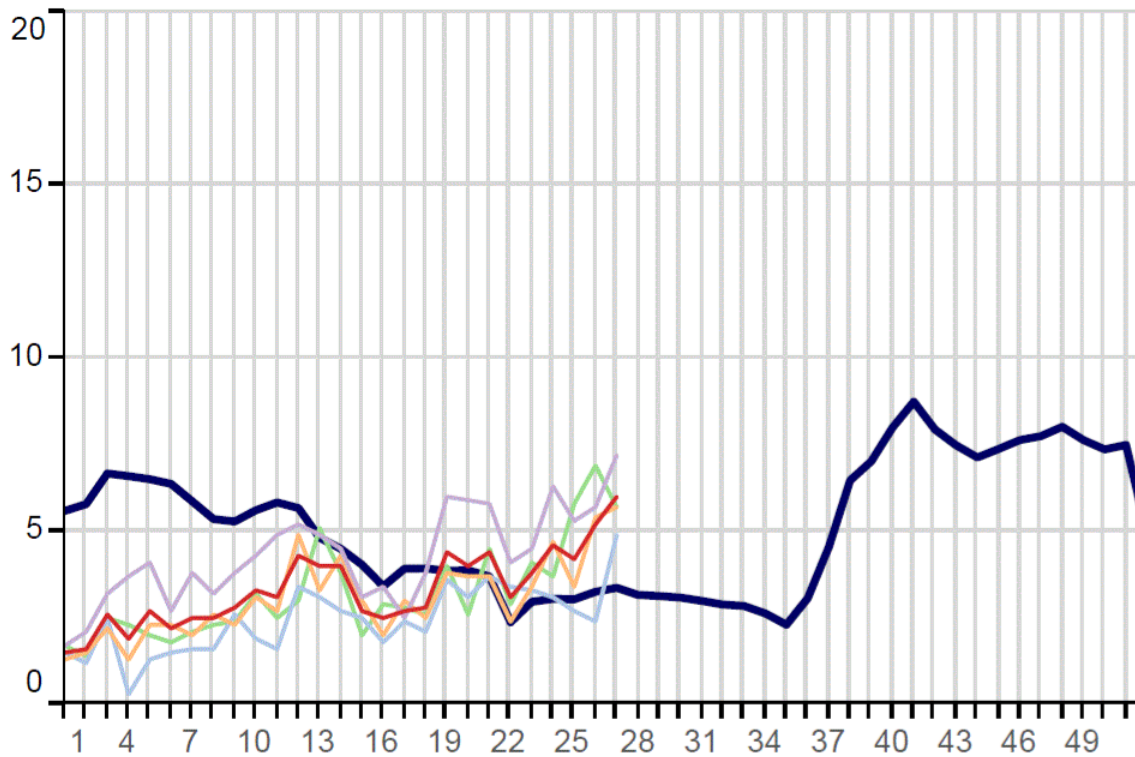


For the w/c on 4th July 2022 serology sample collection decreased for all age bands compared to the previous 3 weeks. Out of 160 serology samples, 70 were  $\geq 65$  years, 37 were 45 – 64 years, and 53 were for 15-44 years. Please collect serology samples from the younger age groups.

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

# Laryngitis Rates Rise

Acute Laryngitis/Tracheitis (ICD10: J04)  
Weekly incidence (per 100,000 all ages) by region  
for 2022 compared with 5 year average



Our data show that, in recent weeks, the incidence of laryngitis in the RSC practices has increased above the 5 year average, to rates that we would normally expect to see in September.

We'd like to remind our member practices that you can swab patients presenting with suspected upper respiratory tract infections, as we're especially interested in determining if these URTIs/laryngitis are incidents of COVID-19 in the vaccinated population, or if we're detecting another virus. Thank you!

## Tuesday's Top Tips

*"Extra cash in the kitty can really help at the minute, even for staff rewards."*

*"Sampling can be another way to bring in additional funds, without making drastic changes."*

- **Set up your AccuRX or other patient messaging service:**

Use our pre-prepared messages to text patients the Patient Information Sheet, or link them with the online ordering of swab kits using the TakeATestUK service.

## **We'd Love to Visit Your Practice**

Practice visits are a great way to put your questions and concerns to us, fill in those blank spots you might have in the sampling process and provide you with guidance and advice to help build on your current sampling efforts, or simply get you going!

Book your practice visit from one of our Practice Liaison Officers, using the button below: