



30 September 2015

Year: 2015 Week: 39

**Syndromic  
surveillance national  
summary:**

## Reporting week: 21 to 27 September 2015

There were further small increases in selected respiratory indicators; levels remain within seasonally expected levels. Levels of asthma/wheeze/difficulty breathing in the 1-4 and 5-14 years age groups have started to decrease from their elevated levels.

**Remote Health  
Advice:**

The percentage of cough calls continued to rise in week 39, particularly in children aged <1 & 1-4 (figure 4a).

The percentage of difficulty breathing calls has levelled off in week 39 (Figure 5) and is now decreasing in children aged 1-4 & 5-14 years old (Figure 5a).

**Click to access the Remote Health Advice bulletin** [\[intranet\]](#) [\[internet\]](#)

**GP In Hours:**

There were further increases in GP consultations for selected respiratory indicators during week 39, within seasonally expected levels. GP consultation rates for severe asthma continued to rise with rates highest in the 5-14 years old age group (figures 10 & 10a).

**Click to access the GP In Hours bulletin** [\[intranet\]](#) [\[internet\]](#)

**Emergency  
Department:**

There were further increases in acute respiratory infection attendances during week 39 (figures 8, 9).

Although decreasing, attendances for asthma/wheeze/difficulty breathing remain higher in the 1-4 and 5-14 years age groups within levels recorded at the same time during the last few years (figure 16).

**Click to access the EDSSS bulletin** [\[intranet\]](#) [\[internet\]](#)

**GP Out of Hours:**

Consultations for acute respiratory infection and bronchitis continued to increase during week 39, in line with seasonal expectations (figures 2 & 4).

Consultations for difficulty breathing/wheeze and asthma in children aged 1-4 and 5-14 years decreased from recent elevated levels (figure 5a).

**Click to access the GPOOHSS bulletin** [\[intranet\]](#) [\[internet\]](#)

**RCGP Weekly  
Returns Service:**

[Click here to access reports from the RCGP website](#) [external link]

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## Syndromic surveillance summary notes

- Key messages are provided from each individual system.
- The different syndromic surveillance systems in operation within PHE access data from different areas of the national health care system.
- Each system is able to monitor a different selection of syndromic indicators based upon a different case mix of patients.
- Access to the full version of each syndromic surveillance bulletin is available through the Syndromic Surveillance website found at: (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/syndromic-surveillance-systems-and-analyses>); reports will be made available on Thursday afternoons.
- Further weekly and annual reports are available from the RCGP Research and Surveillance web pages <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/research-and-surveillance-centre.aspx>

## Syndromic surveillance systems

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### Remote Health Advice

*A remote health advice syndromic surveillance system that monitors syndromic calls from remote health advice services e.g. NHS 111 each day across England*

### GP In-Hours Syndromic Surveillance System

*A large UK-based general practitioner surveillance system monitoring daily consultations for a range of clinical syndromic indicators*

### Emergency Department Syndromic Surveillance System (EDSSS)

*A sentinel ED network across England monitoring daily attendances and presenting symptoms/diagnoses*

### GP Out-of-Hours Syndromic Surveillance System (GPOOHS)

*A syndromic surveillance system monitoring daily GP out-of hours activity and unscheduled care across England using a range of clinical syndromic indicators*

### RCGP Weekly Returns Service (RCGP WRS)

*A sentinel GP surveillance network covering England and Wales monitoring weekly consultations for a range of clinical indicators. This surveillance system is coordinated by the RCGP Research and Surveillance Centre*

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## Acknowledgements:

We thank and acknowledge the contribution of all data providers including:

- NHS 111 and HSCIC
  - Participating EDSSS emergency departments
  - College of Emergency Medicine
  - Advanced Health & Care and the participating OOH service providers
  - QSurveillance®; University of Nottingham; EMIS/EMIS practices; ClinRisk®
  - TPP, ResearchOne and participating SystmOne GP practices
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