



28 October 2020.

Field Service | From local to global: combining expertise in epidemiology and microbiology to protect the population from public health threats.

Contact ReSST

Year: 2020 Week: 43

Summary.

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Reporting week: 19 October to 25 October 2020.

During week 43 emergency department COVID-19-like attendances continued to increase, particularly in older adults.

Please see the 'notes and caveats' sections in each individual syndromic surveillance bulletin for information about 'COVID-19-like' syndromic indicators, including important caveats around the interpretation of these indicators.

Remote Health Advice:

'Potential COVID-19' calls remained stable during week 43; there has been a continued small increase in calls in the 65-74 years age group (figures 8 & 8a). 'Potential COVID-19' online assessments decreased slightly (figure 17).

[Access bulletin](#)

'Loss of taste/smell' calls remain stable although there have been increases in calls observed in age groups over 45+ years (figure 5 & 5a); online assessments remained stable (figure 15).

GP In Hours:

During week 43, COVID-19-like consultations and other respiratory conditions including influenza-like illness remained stable (figures 1 & 3).

[Access bulletin](#)

GP Out of Hours:

During week 43, GP out of hours respiratory indicators remained stable (figures 2-6). Contacts for difficulty breathing/wheeze/asthma increased in the over 65 years (figure 5a).

[Access bulletin](#)

Emergency Department:

Emergency department COVID-19-like attendances continued to increase during week 43, particularly in older adult age groups and Yorkshire & Humber PHE Centre (figure 3, 3a & 3b).

[Access bulletin](#)

Acute respiratory infection attendances increased slightly nationally in week 43, particularly in adults 65 years and over (figure 5 & 5b).

Ambulance:

During week 43, ambulance COVID-19-like calls increased (figure 2). Calls for breathing problems also increased but remain just below baseline levels (figure 4). Cardiac/respiratory arrest calls increased and are above baseline levels (figure 8).

[Access bulletin](#)

28 October 2020

- Key messages are provided from each individual system.
 - The different PHE syndromic surveillance systems access data from different areas of the national health care system.
 - Each syndromic surveillance 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 PHE Syndromic Surveillance website found at: (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/syndromic-surveillance-systems-and-analyses>); reports are made available on Thursday afternoons.
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Remote Health Advice Syndromic Surveillance System:

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 general practitioner surveillance system monitoring daily consultations for a range of clinical syndromic indicators across England.

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.

Emergency Department Syndromic Surveillance System (EDSSS):

A national ED network across England monitoring daily attendances and presenting symptoms/diagnoses.

National Ambulance Syndromic Surveillance System (NASSS):

The national ambulance syndromic surveillance system (NASSS) monitors daily calls made by persons to an ambulance trust. All 10 ambulance trusts in England provide data.

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

- NHS 111 and NHS Digital.
 - QSurveillance®; University of Oxford; EMIS/EMIS practices; ClinRisk®.
 - TPP, ResearchOne and participating SystemOne GP practices.
 - Advanced Health & Care and the participating OOH service providers.
 - Participating EDSSS emergency departments.
 - Royal College of Emergency Medicine.
 - North East, North West, Yorkshire, East Midlands, West Midlands, East of England, London, South East Coast, South Central, and South Western NHS Ambulance Trusts and The Association of Ambulance Chief Executives.
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PHE Real-time Syndromic Surveillance Team.

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Web: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/syndromic-surveillance-systems-and-analyses>