



17 March 2021.

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

Contact: ReSST

Year: 2021 Week: 10

Summary.

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Reporting week: 08 March to 14 March 2021.

During week 10, COVID-19-like indicators decreased, or remained stable, across all syndromic systems. There were some small increases in respiratory indicators, particularly noted in children aged 1-4 years.

Note: during the COVID-19 pandemic, patients with COVID-19 symptoms are generally advised to initially access a COVID-19 test through the national COVID-19 testing programme. This is likely to result in lower numbers of patients accessing health advice as monitored through syndromic surveillance systems. Syndromic data should therefore be interpreted with some caution and in the context of other COVID-19 monitoring data sources.

Remote Health Advice:

NHS 111 'potential COVID-19' calls decreased during week 10 and online assessments were stable (figures 8 & 17). There was a slight increase in difficulty breathing and also in sore throat, particularly in the 1-4 and 5-14 years age groups (figures 6, 7 & 7a).

[Access bulletin](#)

GP In Hours:

During week 10, COVID-19-like consultations remained stable (figure 1).

[Access bulletin](#)

GP Out of Hours:

During week 10, GP out of hours contacts for acute respiratory infection and difficulty breathing/wheeze/asthma increased slightly (most noted in children aged 1-4 years), but remain below seasonally expected levels (figures 2, 2a, 5 & 5a).

[Access bulletin](#)

Emergency Department:

COVID-19-like attendances continued to decrease during week 10 (figure 3). Respiratory conditions including acute respiratory infection, pneumonia and asthma increased in week 10, notably in children, but remain within expected levels (figures 4, 5, 8 & 9).

[Access bulletin](#)

Ambulance:

Ambulance COVID-19-like calls stabilised during week 10, while breathing problems calls increased slightly (figures 2 & 3).

[Access bulletin](#)

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- 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.

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.

PHE Real-time Syndromic Surveillance Team.

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