

Weekly Evidence Surveillance 17th April 2025

| Source | Item | Pub Date | Details |
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| WHO | WHO consolidated guidelines on tuberculosis: module 3: diagnosis | 16/04/2025 | This document will be accompanied by the “WHO operational handbook on tuberculosis. Module 3: diagnosis”, which aims at facilitating implementation of the WHO recommendations by Member States, technical partners, and others involved in managing patients with TB infection, TB disease, and drug-resistant TB. |
| WHO | WHO consolidated guidelines on tuberculosis: module 4: treatment and care | 15/04/2025 | <p>The World Health Organization’s Global Programme on Tuberculosis & Lung Health (WHO/GTB) has integrated all existing recommendations into a single, unified set of consolidated tuberculosis (TB) guidelines. These guidelines are organized into modules, each tailored to specific programmatic areas.</p> <p>Module 4: treatment and care encompass all current recommendations for managing drug-susceptible and drug-resistant TB, alongside patient care and support strategies. Developed according to WHO’s rigorous standards, the guidelines rely on the latest evidence reviews and the GRADE methodology to evaluate evidence quality and determine the strength of each recommendation. Primarily aimed at health policymakers and National TB Programme (NTP) managers, they also support healthcare providers and technical organizations engaged in TB care.</p> <p>An operational handbook accompanies the guidelines, providing practical advice for large-scale implementation.</p> |
| WHO | Infection prevention and control and water sanitation and hygiene in health facilities during mpox disease outbreaks: rapid assessment tool, user guide | 14/04/2025 | The IPC and WASH rapid assessment tool (RAT) is meant to assess health facilities within mpox-affected areas that have at least one inpatient bed. This guide is intended for individuals who are conducting assessments of a facility, regardless of their |

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| | | | <p>previous IPC and /or WASH experience. This guide provides detailed instructions and describes the parameters for each criterion, data collection exercise and follow-up actions based on the assessment findings and recommendations.</p> <p>Download the Rapid Assessment Tool in Excel, designed to accompany the user guide: IPC_WASH_Rapid_Assessment_Tool_Mpox</p> |
| WHO | Educating medical and nursing students to provide mental health, neurological and substance use care: A practical guide for pre-service education | 14/04/2025 | <p>Pre-service education sets the foundation for preparing health professionals to provide services within health systems. Educating medical and nursing students to provide mental health, neurological and substance use care: A practical guide for pre-service education provides a practical framework for enhancing first-degree medical and nursing education in mental, neurological and substance use (MNS) care. It outlines how to integrate 12 core competencies into curricula, offering guidance for universities, educators, and workforce planners. The guide emphasizes competency-based education that equips future doctors and nurses with the attitudes, knowledge, and skills needed to provide quality care for people with MNS conditions.</p> |
| WHO | Mass gathering practical guide for simulation exercises and after action reviews | 11/04/2025 | <p>1. Mass Gatherings Simulation Exercise Toolkit (Foodborne outbreak scenario, Crowd surge scenario, Chemical spill scenario, Heatwave scenario)</p> |
| WHO | Surveillance for human infections with avian influenza A(H5) viruses: objectives, case definitions, testing and reporting | 11/04/2025 | <p>The overall objective of continual global surveillance for human infection with avian influenza A(H5) viruses is to detect and characterize any influenza A(H5) viruses infecting humans in order to: (1) promptly trigger public health control and response actions, (2) assess the trends of such infections and the public health risks posed (including the risk of a pandemic); and (3) inform global pandemic preparedness activities. This document summarizes the WHO implementation guidance on surveillance for human infection with influenza A(H5) viruses.</p> |

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| UKHSA | Barriers to reporting LFD test results during the universal testing offer period | 17/04/2025 | A rapid review of barriers and facilitators influencing reporting of lateral flow device (LFD) test results during the period of the universal testing offer. |
| UKHSA | Ethical integration of research in public health emergencies | 17/04/2025 | A report to identify the key ethical considerations that arise when integrating research in public health emergency response strategies. |
| UKHSA | Public views on acceptability of self-sampling and self-testing for infections | 17/04/2025 | Rapid systematic review to identify user views and the acceptability of self-sampling and/or self-testing for detecting acute infections. |
| UKHSA | COVID-19: testing initiative evaluation programme | 17/04/2025 | Reports relating to the coronavirus (COVID-19) testing initiative evaluation programme. |
| UKHSA | Malaria reference laboratory (MRL): user handbook | 16/04/2025 | Details of MRL laboratory services including malaria diagnosis. |
| UKHSA | Mercury: health effects, incident management and toxicology | 16/04/2025 | Information about mercury, for use in responding to chemical incidents. |
| UKHSA | Measles: public health response to cases who have travelled whilst infectious | 16/04/2025 | Guidance about infectious measles linked to international travel, including air, sea and land crossings. 16 April 2025 The PDF titled 'Measles: guidance for health protection staff on international travel and travel by air' has been replaced with the HTML titled 'Measles: guidance for Health Protection Teams on cases linked to international travel including air, sea and land crossings'. The guidance was reviewed as part of the Border Health Transformation Programme. It includes updates to reporting pathways, including liaising with the UKHSA Border Health Team and reporting internally to UKHSA IHRNFP, a review of Border Health Transformation Evidence and updates to reflect use of the new CIMS case management system. |
| UKHSA | Adverse Weather and Health Plan | 15/05/2025 | The Adverse Weather and Health Plan aims to protect individuals and communities from the health effects of adverse weather and to build community resilience. |
| UKHSA | Chickenpox as a notifiable disease: information for health professionals | 15/05/2025 | Information for health professionals on the inclusion of Chickenpox (varicella) in the list of notifiable diseases |

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| NICE | Molnupiravir for treating COVID-19 | | Evidence-based recommendations on molnupiravir (Lagevrio) for treating mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults who have a positive SARS-CoV-2 test. Molnupiravir is recommended as an option for treating mild to moderate COVID-19 in adults who have a positive SARS-CoV-2 test, only if: they have 1 or more risk factors for progression to severe COVID-19 (as defined in section 5 of NICE's technology appraisal guidance on nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir, sotrovimab and tocilizumab for treating COVID-19) and both nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir and sotrovimab are contraindicated or unsuitable. |
| PH Ontario | Measles Exposures in Ontario | 15/05/2025 | Ongoing measles transmission in Ontario is impacting multiple public health units. Detailed information on measles cases in Ontario can be found in the Measles in Ontario Enhanced Epidemiological Summary. |
| HIQA | Preparing for the establishment of health data access body services in Ireland under the European Health Data Space Regulation: Guidance for Data Holders | 16/04/2025 | HIQA has developed a guidance document which outlines key aspects of the secondary use of health data under the regulation, and the implications for data holders in Ireland. It aims to support data holders to better understand their obligations, and to assist in the identification of organisational changes required to achieve compliance with the regulation. The guidance describes the process of applying for and accessing datasets through a Health Data Access Body (HDAB) service, and sets out a number of specific obligations for data holders. It also aims to support data holders to review their data quality practices and the interoperability of their datasets to identify improvements and enhancements that are necessary in advance of the full implementation of the EHDS Regulation. |
| HIQA | Preparing for the establishment of health data access body services in Ireland under the European Health Data Space Regulation: Readiness Assessment | 16/04/2025 | The HealthData@IE project is a collaboration between HIQA, the Department of Health, and the Health Research Board (HRB), also involving the HSE and key stakeholders, funded through the EU4Health programme. It aims to support the establishment of Health Data Access Body (HDAB) services in Ireland, as required by the European Health Data Space (EHDS) Regulation. Once established, a HDAB will securely connect data users, such as |

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| | | | researchers and policy-makers, with anonymised health datasets to support research and innovation, education and training, policy-making, health service management, and preparation of national statistics. |
| HIQA | Scoping consultation to inform the development of a national framework for the responsible and safe use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in health and social care services | 16/04/2025 | This framework will also be of use to people using services by educating and empowering them on what their expectations should be, in respect of the responsible and safe use of AI while engaging with health and social care services. |
| EvidenceAlerts | Nirmatrelvir–ritonavir versus placebo–ritonavir in individuals with long COVID in the USA (PAX LC): a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, phase 2, decentralised trial | 03/04/2025 | Interpretation Nirmatrelvir–ritonavir administered for 15 days did not significantly improve health outcomes in participants with long COVID compared with placebo–ritonavir at day 28. However, the study showed the feasibility of large-scale, decentralised trials in long COVID. |
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