

Weekly Evidence Surveillance 27/03/2026

Date	Source	Item	Pub Date	Details	Public Health Theme
27/03/2026	ECDC	Guide for designing and conducting in-action and after-action reviews	25/03/2026	This guide presents a three-stage approach for conducting an action review. At the core of this approach is an action review workshop that brings together relevant stakeholders to map the events and actions of an ongoing or past public health emergency to identify instances of good practice, pain points and potential solutions. The findings and proposed corrective actions are collated into a final report. This report is used to develop an action plan that should be implemented to improve response activities.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	ECDC	Handbook on tuberculosis laboratory diagnostic methods in the European Union - updated 2026	24/03/2026	The aim of this handbook is to provide members of the European Reference Laboratory Network for Tuberculosis (ERLN-TB) and other laboratories involved in the diagnosis of TB with an agreed list of key diagnostic methods, ranging from microbiological diagnosis of active TB to the diagnosis of TB infection. This handbook offers a single source of reference by compiling all methods, with a strong focus on standard (reference) and evidence-based methods.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	WHO	Genomics costing tool, user manual, 2nd edition	19/03/2026	The tool is intended for policymakers at all levels, health administrators and economists, laboratory leaders, quality managers, donor institutions, and other stakeholders involved in sequencing and bioinformatics for priority pathogens.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	WHO	World report on promoting the health of refugees and migrants: monitoring progress on the WHO global action	26/03/2026	The World report on promoting the health of refugees and migrants: Monitoring progress on the WHO global action plan provides the first global baseline for assessing implementation of the 2019-2030 WHO Global Action Plan on Promoting the Health of Refugees and Migrants (GAP).The report calls for	Cross-Cutting / Other Public Health Topics

		plan: executive summary		stronger leadership, sustained investment and enhanced coordination to promote the health of refugees and migrants. It recommends the development of national GAP implementation roadmaps, strengthened data and monitoring systems, expanded cross-sectoral partnerships, and greater inclusion of refugees and migrants in decision-making processes. These actions are essential to achieving health equity, system resilience and global health security for all.	
27/03/2026	WHO	Framework for health emergency preparedness and response capabilities for national public health agencies	23/03/2026	The Framework for Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Capabilities for National Public Health Agencies (NPHAs) provides comprehensive guidance to help countries strengthen the institutions that lead and coordinate public health emergency functions. By outlining the capabilities NPHAs can lead or support, the framework provides a practical tool for strengthening national preparedness and ensuring alignment with global obligations. Its aim is to help every country build coherent, evidence-based, equitable and resilient emergency systems.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Water fluoridation: health monitoring report for England 2026	20/03/2026	The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) monitors and reports on the health effects of fluoride for people living in areas covered by water fluoridation schemes.	Environment & Health
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Health protection in children and young people settings, including education	21/03/2026	A practical guide for staff on managing cases of infectious diseases in children and young people settings, including education.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Syphilis: UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) Response Plan	23/03/2026	Addressing the increase in syphilis in England.	Sexual Health

27/03/2026	UKHSA	National HIV data release: data to end of December 2025	23/03/2026	Annual report, data tables, and local authority-level indicators showing trends in HIV testing, HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and HIV post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), HIV diagnoses, late diagnoses, and access to HIV care.	Sexual Health
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Radiation workers and their health: national study	24/03/2026	The national registry for radiation workers (NRRW) is a long-term follow-up study of the health of radiation workers in the UK.	Environment & Health
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Invasive Meningococcal Disease Outbreak 2026: technical briefings	24/03/2026	Technical briefing documents on the Invasive Meningococcal Disease outbreak 2026.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Adverse Weather and Health Plan	25/03/2026	The Adverse Weather and Health Plan aims to protect individuals and communities from the health effects of adverse weather and to build community resilience.	Environment & Health
27/03/2026	UKHSA	£1 billion invested in health protection as new Pandemic Strategy published	25/03/2026	New Pandemic Preparedness Strategy has been published alongside the UK Government's response to the Covid-19 Inquiry Module 2 report.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Cases of invasive meningococcal disease notified in Kent	26/03/2026	The UK Health Security Agency is continuing to investigate an outbreak of meningococcal disease in Kent. No new cases have been confirmed since 24/03/26 update. As of 12.30pm on 24 March, 20 laboratory cases are confirmed and 2 notifications remain under investigation, bringing the total to 22.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Preventing and managing bacterial wound infections in prison	27/03/2026	Guidance on managing and preventing the spread of group A streptococcal (GAS) infection and other skin and soft tissue infections in prisons and secure settings.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Meningococcal B outbreak investigation survey	27/03/2026	Information about the group B meningococcal disease outbreak investigation survey.	Emerging Infectious Diseases

27/03/2026	UKHSA	UK National Reference Laboratory for food microbiology	27/03/2026	Added paragraph about FSA and updated National Standard Operational Procedure version numbers.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	UKHSA	Increase in drug-resistant Shigella cases among gay and bisexual men	26/03/2026	New UKHSA data shows that sexually transmitted Shigella cases in England continue to occur at high levels, with over 2,500 diagnoses in 2025	Sexual Health
27/03/2026	PHA-NI	PHA statement update - meningitis	20/03/2026	Probable case at a Belfast School has been ruled out.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	PHA-NI	Update on meningitis incident in Kent England	16/03/2026	Notice to the public about symptoms of meningitis and what to do if concerned.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	ESRI	Quarterly Economic Commentary, Spring 2026	25/03/2026	The main impact of the Iran crisis for our forecasts is with regard to inflation. In our winter Commentary, we had expected Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation to be 2.1 per cent in 2026. We now expect this to be 3.2 per cent in 2026 and 2.7 per cent in 2027, but a more prolonged conflict would imply higher rates with energy price rises leading to price rises across a wide range of goods and services. This generalised inflation would dampen economic activity.	Cross-Cutting / Other Public Health Topics
27/03/2026	ESRI	Price elasticity of residential natural gas demand: Evidence from population microdata in Ireland	24/03/2026	This paper quantifies the short-run price elasticity of demand for residential natural gas consumption. We use a novel population dataset of natural gas consumption covering all residential consumers connected to the Irish natural gas network. We match retail prices to residential consumers using a representative profile of tariffs. Using supply area information, we match households to geo-referenced weather station data to control for weather effects. Our findings reveal a short-run elasticity ranging from -0.19 to -0.33.	Environment & Health

27/03/2026	ESRI	How well do economic games model collective climate action? A scoping review ESRI	19/03/2026	This study critically and constructively assesses how ‘economic games’ contribute to climate policy research via a pre-registered systematic scoping review of 165 sources. Researchers use economic games as empirical tools to measure cooperation while experimentally controlling the presence, absence or levels of potential influencing factors. This review covers multiple game structures, including public goods games, common pool resource problems and threshold games. Policy insights: Researchers have used economic games to identify factors likely to boost cooperation to address climate change. The review identifies seven specific issues to consider when making inferences from economic games to policy contexts. The review suggests new research questions and game designs that can assist policymaking and make findings more relevant to specific climate policy problems.	Environment & Health
27/03/2026	PH Ontario	Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool	27/03/2026	This tool provides comprehensive epidemiological information of respiratory virus activity in Ontario, including COVID-19, influenza and other respiratory viruses. Explore case trends, laboratory testing, outcomes, and outbreaks.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
27/03/2026	HPRA	Over 750,000 units of illegal medicines detained by the HPRA in 2025	24/03/2026	Announcing its annual enforcement figures today, the HPRA confirms that it detained a total of 763,027 dosage units* which included just under 14,000 individual packages each linked to a separate purchase by a member of the public of illegal or falsified medicines. This represents a threefold (180%) increase of individual consignments since 2024**. A significant proportion of these were presented as GLP-1 products for personal use.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews

27/03/2026	HIQA	Scalable Training and Knowledge Exchange on guideline development for patients, public, and healthcare professionals (The STAKEholder Project) HIQA	18/03/2026	The purpose of this project was to improve knowledge exchange within the CICER grant by co-producing learning materials with patients and health professionals. Through the development and dissemination of learning materials, the project intends to foster better engagement by these stakeholder groups in the development of future National Clinical Guidelines.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	HIQA	Report on the findings of a readiness assessment of data holders in Ireland in relation to health data access body services	24/03/2026	The findings of the readiness assessment identified that key steps must be taken across Ireland's health and social care system to prepare for the full depth of the EHDS Regulation's requirements and the establishment of a HDAB service. For data holders to meet their obligations, effective infrastructure, governance structures and data-sharing practices are essential. Likewise, data holders need detailed rules and specifications to support changes in practices and to prepare for the operationalisation and establishment of a HDAB service.	Cross-Cutting / Other Public Health Topics
27/03/2026	HIQA	Monitoring of International Protection Accommodation Service Centres in 2025	03/03/2026	This report provides an overview of HIQA's second year of monitoring and inspecting International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) centres. It outlines key findings and insights in areas such as governance, risk management, safeguarding and vetting, accommodation and residents' rights. The report also addresses systemic challenges impacting service delivery.	Cross-Cutting / Other Public Health Topics
27/03/2026	PHS	Viral respiratory diseases in Scotland surveillance report	26/03/2026	For the period, 16 March to 22 March 2026 (ISO week 12): All syndromic respiratory disease indicators remained at baseline activity. RSV, COVID-19 remained at baseline activity. Adenovirus, hMPV, and seasonal coronavirus decreased.	Emerging Infectious Diseases

27/03/2026	PHS	Childhood immunisation statistics Scotland	24/03/2026	Although overall vaccine uptake in Scotland remains high, it has been gradually declining over time. In 2025, trends varied by age measure compared with 2024: uptake at 12 months remained stable, uptake measured at 24 months decreased across all vaccines, and uptake measured at 5 and 6 years increased for most vaccines.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
27/03/2026	PHS	Laboratory reports of norovirus in Scotland	26/03/2026	Similar levels compared to last season.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	PHS	Vaccinations in prisons: Findings from a prison healthcare staff questionnaire	24/03/2026	The first publication of the ‘COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccine Uptake in Adults Under Prison Care – Winter 2023/24’ reported low vaccine uptake in this population. In response to this, Public Health Scotland (PHS) developed a questionnaire to gather intelligence for the following purposes: to inform local and national service improvement activities to support improving vaccine uptake in prison establishments, including access to immunisation for people at risk of blood borne viruses and other drug related harms and to provide context for the vaccine uptake analysis that is undertaken by PHS.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
27/03/2026	PHS	Scottish Vaccine Update	26/03/2026	Extension to RSV vaccination programme approved and planned roll-out 2026. JCVI confirmed that additional groups 80 years and older, and all residents in a care home for older adults will be eligible from 1st April 2026. PHS is finalising plans for roll out of Scotland's Spring 2026 Covid-19 vaccination programme. Identical eligibility to spring 2025.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
27/03/2026	PHS	Long-term monitoring of health inequalities in Scotland by area deprivation	26/03/2026	Public Health Scotland is developing a new reporting framework and Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) dashboard to replace the previous reporting arrangements. This interim report uses	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews

				existing ScotPHO indicators to provide an updated overview of how health outcomes vary according to the level of deprivation in the areas people live. It includes the latest available data, including recent National Records of Scotland life and healthy life expectancy estimates.	
27/03/2026	IDSA	Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for the Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock in Children 2026	23/03/2026	Surviving Sepsis Campaign International Guidelines for the Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock in Children 2026	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	IDSA	Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock 2026	23/03/2026	The Surviving Sepsis Campaign (SSC) guidelines are intended to support clinicians caring for adult patients with sepsis, focusing on management in the hospital, the immediate prehospital setting, and the immediate post-hospital setting. These guidelines incorporate principles of antimicrobial stewardship through responsible antimicrobial use, proper diagnostic strategies, and de-escalation of antimicrobial therapy. The recommendations reflect evidence-based best practice, distilling a large body of research into actionable recommendations. They empower individuals and health systems to make informed choices about care and support improvements in management and outcomes of sepsis	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
27/03/2026	IDSA	State-of-the-Art Review: Managing Vulvovaginal Candidiasis	17/03/2026	Vulvovaginal candidiasis is one of the most prevalent infections in women worldwide. This review examines the pathophysiology, risk factors, microbiome interactions, clinical manifestations, and challenges in diagnosing and managing vulvovaginal candidiasis, with emphasis on recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis.	Sexual Health

27/03/2026	Evidence Alerts	Efficacy, Comparative Effectiveness, and Harm of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccines in Adults Who Are Not Pregnant or Immunocompromised: A Rapid Review for the American College of Physicians.	03/03/2026	The review included 7 randomized controlled trials and 1 nonrandomized study. In older adults (≥60 years), RSV protein subunit vaccines probably reduce RSV-related hospitalizations (vaccine efficacy [VE], 83.3% [95% CI, 42.9% to 96.9%]; moderate CoE) and severe RSV illness (VE, 94.1% [CI, 62.4% to 99.9%]; moderate CoE) but have no effect on all-cause mortality (risk ratio [RR], 1.07 [CI, 0.68 to 1.68]; high CoE). They probably do not differ from placebo or no vaccination in serious adverse events (SAEs) (RR, 0.96 [CI, 0.75 to 1.23]; moderate CoE). Messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines for RSV showed no difference in the incidence of SAEs compared with placebo in older adults (RR, 1.09 [CI, 0.83 to 1.45]; high CoE).	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
27/03/2026	Evidence Alerts	Summary of WHO clinical practice guidelines for influenza.	27/03/2026	Clinical questions: What is the role of medications in treating non-severe and severe influenza including zoonotic disease (novel influenza A), and in preventing infection among contacts? Which diagnostic testing strategies best enable rapid and accurate treatment decisions? ew randomised controlled trial (RCT) evidence, ongoing concerns about zoonotic disease, and the increasing availability of rapid diagnostic tests require updated guidance. There are 29 recommendations; 21 related to antiviral medications and six to adjunctive therapies to prevent and treat influenza. Recommendations are stratified by severity of disease and risk of disease progression. For seasonal influenza, WHO conditionally recommends treatment within 48 hours of symptom onset with oseltamivir for severe illness, and baloxavir for patients at high risk of progression from non-severe to severe illness. WHO also conditionally recommends prophylaxis (using baloxavir,	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance

				laninimavir, oseltamivir, or zanamivir) for anyone exposed to zoonotic influenza, and for those exposed to seasonal influenza who are at extremely high risk.	
27/03/2026	Canada	Closed: Outbreak of E. coli infections linked to Pillsbury brand Pizza Pops	19/03/2026	Closed outbreak. E. Coli O26 outbreak linked to Pillsbury brand Pizza Pops Pepperoni + Bacon. 30 cases, 8 hospitalised. Closed 19.03.2026	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	Canada	Public health notice: Outbreak of Salmonella infections linked to various brands of pistachios and pistachio-containing products	13/03/2026	Ongoing investigation of Salmonella infections linked to various brands of pistachios and pistachio-containing products. Across 6 Canadian provinces. 25 hospitalised. Recall list: https://inspection.canada.ca/en/inspection-and-enforcement/food-safety-investigations/pistachio-recall-salmonella	Environment & Health
27/03/2026	WOAH	Guideline launch: Surveillance of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza for Smallholder Poultry Systems in Resource-Limited Settings	23/03/2026	WOAH has launched the Guidelines Surveillance of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza for Smallholder Poultry Systems in Resource-Limited Settings, providing Veterinary Authorities and Veterinary Services involved in high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) surveillance, as well as wildlife, environmental and public health services, animal diagnostic laboratories and other One Health partners with practical recommendations to assist in designing surveillance programmes for the detection of HPAI virus in smallholder poultry systems (SHPS), tailored to the needs and contexts of resource-limited settings.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
27/03/2026	IAEA	IAEA Hosts Conference on the Safe and Secure Transport of Nuclear and Radioactive Material	23/03/2026	The IAEA is hosting an international conference this week focused on strengthening the safe and secure transport of nuclear and other radioactive material.	Environment & Health

27/03/2026	IAEA	New IAEA Research Project Uses Machine Learning to Better Predict Polymer Changes under Radiation	23/03/2026	The IAEA is inviting research organizations to join a new project that will use machine learning to better predict structural changes in polymers caused by ionizing radiation. Radiation-induced effects in polymers play a critical role across diverse industrial and healthcare applications, from nuclear power plant cable insulation to medical equipment sterilization.	Cross-Cutting / Other Public Health Topics
27/03/2026	ProMED	Protecting Global Health, One Alert at a Time ProMED	23/03/2026	A snapshot of global health events from the past 7 days. Of note, increase in Hep A cases reported in Italy.	Emerging Infectious Diseases