

Weekly Evidence Surveillance 07/03/2025

Source	Item	Pub Date	Summary Details
ECDC	Rapid outbreak assessment - Prolonged cross-border multi-serovar Salmonella outbreak linked to consumption of sprouted seeds	06/03/2025	A cross-border multi-serovar Salmonella enterica outbreak linked to the consumption of sprouted seeds has been ongoing in Europe since 2023.
ECDC	The European Union summary report on antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and indicator bacteria from humans, animals and food in 2022–2023	05/03/2025	This report presents the main findings of the 2022–2023 harmonised antimicrobial resistance (AMR) monitoring in Salmonella spp., Campylobacter jejuni and Campylobacter coli from humans and food-producing animals (broilers, laying hens and fattening turkeys, fattening pigs and cattle under 1 year of age) and derived meat.
ECDC	Surveillance and monitoring Tenth external quality assessment scheme for Listeria monocytogenes typing in EU/EEA and EU enlargement countries, 2023	04/03/2025	This report presents the results of the tenth round of the external quality assessment (EQA-10) scheme for Listeria monocytogenes (L. monocytogenes) typing in EU/EEA and EU enlargement countries, organised for national public health reference laboratories (NPHRLs) providing data to the Food- and Waterborne Diseases and Zoonoses Network (FWD-Net), managed by ECDC
WHO	A global review of value-based care: theory, practice and lessons learned	07/03/2025	Health systems globally are exploring avenues for maximizing value and transitioning out of a volume-based approach to health service provision and financing. This document is a global review of efforts being undertaken in value-based health care and the emerging paradigm for enhancing health systems accountability, efficiency and effectiveness.
WHO	Syndromic screening for infection prevention and control measures during public health emergencies	06/03/2025	This technical note describes a simplified screening approach for health-care settings to engage in the early detection and safe placement of patients with syndromes of suspected infections that are known to rapidly transmit as health care-associated infections. This includes active and passive screening tools that may facilitate systematic screening of all patients – both inpatients and outpatients – for signs and symptoms of suspected infectious rash, infectious diarrhoea or acute respiratory infection. Also included is contextual information relevant to implementing syndromic

			screening for IPC measures in the context of public health emergencies and advice for linking syndromic screening with emergency surveillance systems.
WHO	The case for investment and action in infection prevention and control	05/03/2025	This document provides the evidence on the expected return in investment in and guidance for implementing and monitoring the WHO global action plan on IPC at the country level.
WHO	Accelerating the development of priority formulations for antibiotic use in children : target product profiles for paediatric formulations of priority antibiotics azithromycin and nitrofurantoin	04/03/2025	This document summarizes proceedings and outcomes of a technical consultation designed to develop target product profiles for three priority antibiotics for children, azithromycin, amoxicillin clavulanic acid and nitrofurantoin, that took place on 7–9 May 2024 and was followed up with a closing virtual session on 1 October 2024. Target product profiles for azithromycin and nitrofurantoin were developed as a result and are now being promoted for development and manufacturing of age-appropriate formulations.
CDC	Preventing Tuberculosis	07/03/2024	Preventing Tuberculosis
CDC	H5 Bird Flu: Current Situation	06/03/2025	Current Situation
UKHSA	National protocol for COVID-19 vaccine (5 years and over)	07/03/2025	Protocol for the administration of COVID-19 mRNA vaccine to individuals aged 5 years and over in accordance with the national COVID-19 vaccination programme. UKHSA COVID-19 National Protocol updated to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • eligibility criteria for Spring 2025 • Table 2- clarifies registered healthcare practitioners eligible to operate as coronavirus occupational health vaccinators (nursing associates and operating department practitioners) from other registered healthcare practitioners enabled to work under Stage 1 of the Protocol • updated references and hyperlinks
UKHSA	Enhanced surveillance of childhood cases of hepatitis B and C in England	06/03/2025	This protocol details the objectives and methods of collection for the surveillance of childhood cases of hepatitis B and hepatitis C in England. Updates: The protocol has been updated to: provide further clarification; remove information on the genotype and mutational analysis; make the letters and GP form downloadable. The privacy notice has been renamed.

UKHSA	Tick Surveillance Scheme (report a tick)	06/03/2025	UKHSA's Tick Surveillance Scheme helps to map and monitor tick distribution and associated risk of exposure to ticks in the UK.
UKHSA	Mpox clade Ib and clade IIb outbreak: epidemiological overview	06/03/2025	The latest information on mpox clade Ib and clade IIb cases in the UK. Previous reports from June 2022 to January 2025 include information on clade IIb only.
UKHSA	Emerging infections: monthly summaries	06/03/2025	Updates on new or emerging infectious disease events that could affect UK public health.
UKHSA	Other vectors of disease	06/03/2025	UKHSA also investigate other vectors of disease that are present in the UK, or might enter the UK in the future (<i>Culicoides biting midges</i> , <i>Sand fly surveillance</i> , <i>Phortica surveillance</i>)
UKHSA	Mosquito research projects	06/03/2025	UKHSA also investigate other vectors of disease that are present in the UK, or might enter the UK in the future.
UKHSA	Mosquito summary - HECC Chapter 8: climate and vector-borne diseases	06/03/2025	Chapter 8 of the Health Effects of Climate Change (HECC) in the UK: 2023 report examines how climate change may have an impact on ticks and tick-borne diseases, potentially changing associated public health risk.
UKHSA	Information on native mosquitoes	06/03/2025	The UK currently has 36 recorded species of mosquito. This page outlines information about these species, and how the nationwide mosquito survey monitors their distribution.
UKHSA	Information on invasive mosquitoes	06/03/2025	This page contains information about species of mosquito which are imported to the UK through international travel and climate change.
UKHSA	Mosquito and tick incidents	06/03/2025	UKHSA responds to incidents involving non-native or invasive vector species, as well as vector-borne diseases not usually found in the UK. Each incident presents novel vector-borne disease risks and requires entomological expertise to ensure a robust response.
UKHSA	Surveillance for Culex modestus	06/03/2025	Culex modestus is a bridge vector for West Nile Virus and is associated with wetland habitats.
UKHSA	Ornate cow tick surveillance	06/03/2025	This survey monitors the distribution of a rarer tick species found in the UK called Dermacentor reticulatus (ornate cow ticks).
UKHSA	HAIRs risk assessments: mosquitoes and ticks	06/03/2025	This page contains the Human Animal Infections and Risk Surveillance group (HAIRs) risk assessments relevant to mosquitoes and ticks.

UKHSA	Tick awareness and toolkit	06/03/2025	Raising awareness of ticks can reduce the potential impacts of associated tick-borne diseases. UKHSA have a range of materials that can be used to support awareness initiatives.
UKHSA	Seeking consent for immunisations in schools	05/03/2025	Guidance on the statutory requirements to consent for immunisations in schools.
UKHSA	Health protection in children and young people settings, including education	05/03/2025	A practical guide for staff on managing cases of infectious diseases in children and young people settings, including education. 5 March 2025 Added new resource 'Seeking consent for immunisations in schools' to 'Supporting immunisations programmes'.
UKHSA	1,2-dibromoethane: properties and incident management	05/03/2025	Information about 1,2-dibromoethane for use in responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	Tattooing and body piercing: infection prevention and control	05/03/2025	Reducing infection in tattooing and body piercing and promoting safety and consistency across practices.
UKHSA	Clade I mpox: affected countries	04/03/2025	This page provides an overview of countries reporting clade I mpox cases (historic or current), indicating where there may be a risk of clade I mpox exposure.
UKHSA	Clade II mpox: prisons and places of detention	04/03/2025	Public health advice for managing cases of clade II mpox in prisons and other prescribed places of detention. Updated information on vaccination via in-reach services.
UKHSA	Isopropanol: general information and incident management	03/03/2025	Information on isopropanol for use in responding to chemical incidents. 3 March 2025 The content of the Incident Management document has been updated. The General Information page has undergone a HTML format update – the content within this page has remained unchanged.
UKHSA	White spirit: general information and incident management	03/03/2025	Information on white spirit for use in responding to chemical incidents. 3 March 2025 The content of the Incident Management document has been updated. The General Information page have undergone a HTML format update – the content within these pages has remained unchanged.
UKHSA	STI Prioritisation Framework	28/02/2025	An evidence-based framework to inform local prioritisation decisions for sexually transmitted infection (STI) control.

NICE	12 SQ-HDM SLIT for treating allergic rhinitis and allergic asthma caused by house dust mites	05/03/2025	Evidence-based recommendations on 12 standard quality house dust mite sublingual lyophilisate (SQ-HDM SLIT; Acarizax) for treating allergic rhinitis and allergic asthma caused by house dust mites.
IDSA	IDSA and HIVMA Join Rally to Protect Science & Public Health	05/03/2025	The Infectious Diseases Society of America and the HIV Medicine Association will be Standing Up for Science at a rally March 7, 12–4 p.m. ET, in Washington, D.C.,
AHRQ	Webinar - Mar. 18: Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools to Improve Provider Effectiveness and Patient Outcomes	05/03/2025	This free webinar from AHRQ's Digital Healthcare Research Program will cover AI's potential to enhance clinician productivity, improve quality of care and increase patients' engagement in their own care. Expert panelists will discuss their own research on leveraging AI tools to improve provider effectiveness and patient outcomes in clinical settings. Continuing education/continuing medical education accreditation is pending for the event.
AHRQ	Mental Health and Occupational Stress in the Emergency Medical Services and 911 Workforces Systematic Review Feb 28, 2025	04/03/2025	Objectives. This Systematic Review addresses the mental health of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and 911 telecommunicator workforces. We addressed Key Questions (KQs) related to the: (1) incidence, prevalence, and severity of mental health and occupational stress issues; (2) benefits and harms of interventions to promote resistance and resilience regarding these issues; (3) contextual and implementation factors for practices to address these issues; and (4) future research needs.
AHRQ	Association of Digestible Carbohydrate Intake With Cardiovascular Disease, Type 2 Diabetes, Obesity, and Body Composition	03/03/2025	Epidemiological studies have shown inconsistent findings regarding the effect of dietary digestible carbohydrate intake on the risk of cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes (T2D). Synthesis of such evidence is important for determining the Dietary Reference Intakes (DRI) for carbohydrates, which can have consequences on incidence and morbidity of chronic conditions. Two systematic reviews were conducted, one addressing cardiovascular outcomes and the second addressing incidence of T2D, body weight, and composition. Dose-response meta-analyses suggest a nonlinear relationship between the intake of digestible carbohydrates and cardiovascular disease and incident T2D. These associations appear to be U-shaped and suggest certain ranges of carbohydrate intake that were associated with the lowest risk. Such ranges can

			help in establishing future DRI for carbohydrates, which can have important consequences on incidence and morbidity of chronic conditions and public health.
EvidenceAlerts	Safety and efficacy of repeat ivermectin mass drug administrations for malaria control (RIMDAMAL II): a phase 3, double-blind, placebo-controlled, cluster-randomised, parallel-group trial.	04/02/2025	Repeated high-dose ivermectin MDA integrated with SMC distributions at the study site did not reduce malaria incidence among children relative to placebo MDA, despite evidence that, compared with the control group, mosquito survivorship in the first year was reduced in the intervention group the week following MDA and overall improvements in haemoglobin were greater in children in the intervention group. Confounding factors, including unexpectedly low malaria incidence over the trial period, possibly due to government distribution of dual-chemistry ITNs to all trial clusters in the middle of the intervention period, overdispersion of the primary incidence outcome between clusters, and high parasite and mosquito species diversity, might have influenced the primary outcome.
EEA	Zero pollution monitoring and outlook 2025	03/03/2025	The monitoring and outlook assessment, published jointly by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre and the EEA, serves as regular bi-annual check-up on the progress of Member States in achieving the EU's zero-pollution targets. This second edition will also inform future policies designed to support the zero-pollution ambition — to reduce pollution to the extent that it no longer presents a risk to human health and the environment by 2050.
EPA	Updated High-resolution Climate Projections for Ireland	Mar-25	The main objective of this project was to evaluate the effects of climate change on the future climate of Ireland using high-resolution regional climate modelling. Previous regional climate projection research for Ireland shows large uncertainty for certain climate projections such as precipitation. Since extreme events such as flooding and droughts are likely to be a critical issue for Ireland, it is important to address this research gap.

Weekly Evidence Surveillance 14/03/2025

Source	Item	Pub Date	Summary Details
ECDC	ECDC assessment of public health workforce capacity in prevention and control of infectious diseases in the EU/EEA	13/03/2025	Report on the findings of a survey on public health workforce capacity in the field of prevention and control of infectious diseases in the EU/EEA.
ECDC	Protocol for COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness multi-country study (VEBIS) using health data registries - Version 3.0	11/03/2025	This protocol presents an updated common methodology for estimating COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness (VE) using established health data registries in participating European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA) Member States. This work is performed within the Vaccine Effectiveness, Burden and Impact Studies (VEBIS) project. The first objective of the study is to prospectively monitor COVID-19 VE via pooled estimates produced monthly as part of a multi-country network. The present master protocol (version 3.0) intends to update the methods previously used to monitor COVID-19 VE, adapting them to the context of autumn 2024 vaccine campaigns in the EU/EEA.
WHO	Pandemic influenza severity assessment (PISA): a WHO guide to assess the severity of influenza in seasonal epidemics and pandemics, second edition	13/03/2025	The updated WHO pandemic influenza severity assessment (PISA) framework set out in this document provides a systematic approach for interpreting data collected through existing surveillance systems and improving their usefulness for risk communication and decision-making. The approach enables the severity of current influenza and syndromic respiratory illness activity to be assessed relative to previous years by using historical data to set thresholds that then allow for the qualitative categorization of such activity. PISA is designed to be implemented continuously based on stable/ routine reporting systems, enabling activity during epidemic and pandemic periods to be compared. Information to assess severity especially early and throughout the course of a pandemic will also be provided through investigations, studies and modelling.
WHO	Strengthening the delivery of HIV testing services and linkage to care	12/03/2025	The elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV using a combination of interventions to support women and their children

	during pregnancy and postpartum for elimination of mother-to-child transmission		is a global health priority and a cornerstone of global efforts to achieve the triple elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B. This brief provides a practical resource to countries working to adopt and scale-up WHO HIV testing guidance for pregnant and postpartum women. Country implementation examples, evidenced-based recommendations and policy guidance are provided throughout.
WHO	Integration of HIV and syphilis testing services as part of mpox response: standard operating procedures	11/03/2025	As mpox mortality has been associated to HIV infection, and its mode of transmission is direct contact, including sexual contact, it is important to integrate mpox to sexually transmitted infections services. This is a template of standard operating procedures for the integration of HIV and syphilis testing services as part of mpox response, that countries can adapt to their context.
CDC	H5 Bird Flu: Current Situation	12/03/2025	Current Situation
UKHSA	Ebola and Marburg: returning workers scheme (RWS)	14/03/2025	14/03/2025 update: Removed the inclusion of Marburg virus disease in Kagera region, Tanzania from the list of outbreaks for which the RWS is currently active.
UKHSA	AI could help detect and investigate foodborne illness outbreaks	14/03/2025	UKHSA is exploring AI to detect foodborne illness outbreaks by analysing online restaurant reviews for symptoms and food mentions.
UKHSA	Hot weather risks and their impact on health	13/03/2025	Aims to raise awareness of the health impacts of hot weather.
UKHSA	Cold weather risks and their impact on health	13/03/2025	Aims to raise awareness of the health impacts of cold weather.
UKHSA	Ethylene oxide: general information and incident management	13/03/2025	Information on ethylene oxide for use in responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	Meningococcal B: vaccine information for healthcare professionals	13/03/2025	Information for healthcare professionals on the meningococcal B vaccine.
UKHSA	Measles epidemiology 2023 to 2025	13/03/2025	Number of laboratory confirmed cases of measles in England.
UKHSA	Pertussis epidemiology in England 2024 and 2025	13/03/2025	Number of laboratory confirmed cases of pertussis in England in 2024 and 2025.
UKHSA	Post-exposure prophylaxis for chickenpox and shingles	13/03/2025	Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) is offered to individuals at high risk of severe chickenpox following an exposure.

UKHSA	Whole genome sequencing service launched to tackle hepatitis C	12/03/2025	Latest data show continued progress towards elimination of hepatitis C as a public health threat in England
UKHSA	Hepatitis B: the green book, chapter 18	11/03/2025	Hepatitis B immunisation information for public health professionals.
UKHSA	Clade I mpox: affected countries	11/03/2025	This page provides an overview of countries reporting clade I mpox cases (historic or current), indicating where there may be a risk of clade I mpox exposure.
UKHSA	Carbon disulphide: general information and incident management	10/03/2025	Information about carbon disulphide, for responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	Sexually transmitted infections (STIs): migrant health guide	10/03/2025	Advice and guidance on the health needs of migrant patients for healthcare practitioners.
UKHSA	n-Hexane: general information and incident management	10/03/2025	Information on n-hexane for use in responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	1,2-dichloroethane: general information and incident management	10/03/2025	Information about 1,2-dichloroethane for use in responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	White phosphorus: general information and incident management	10/03/2025	Information on phosphorus for use in responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	Sodium dichromate: general information and incident management	10/03/2025	Information on sodium dichromate for use in responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	Tributyl phosphate: general information and incident management	10/03/2025	Information on tributyl phosphate for use in responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	Hydrazine: general information and incident management	10/03/2025	Information on hydrazine for use in responding to chemical incidents.
UKHSA	Lassa fever contact tracing underway	07/03/2025	UKHSA is tracing contacts of a person who travelled to England with Lassa fever and has since returned to Nigeria, with overall public risk remaining very low.
PHA-NI	Lifeline information sheet for professionals	13/03/2025	This information sheet outlines the types of support Lifeline can offer to people in distress or despair, and advises professionals on how they can refer clients to Lifeline.
PHA-NI	Support following an unexpected death (English and translations)	13/03/2025	This leaflet provides brief information on sources of support following an unexpected death, including the HSC Bereavement Network and the Bereaved by Suicide support services in each Trust. It also directs people to an online copy of the booklet Help is at hand.

PHA-NI	Lifeline leaflet and posters	13/03/2025	This leaflet and set of posters provide brief information on how to contact the Lifeline crisis response helpline and what support Lifeline can provide to those in distress or despair. More information is available on the Lifeline website at www.lifelinehelpline.info
PHA-NI	Director of Public Health Core Tables 2023	13/03/2025	The Director of Public Health Core Tables contain a range of demographic information such as home population figures and projections, births and fertility data, death rates, childhood immunisation rates, infectious diseases and population screening uptake rates.
PHA-NI	Caring for someone who has self-harmed or had suicidal thoughts	13/03/2025	This guide provides important information on how to take care of yourself and your family member following a suicide attempt/suicidal thoughts or self-harm and highlights resources to help you move forward. The guide is divided into three parts: 1. What happens during a visit to the Emergency Department (new name for A&E), GP or GP out-of-hours (OOH) department. 2. What you need to know following your family member's discharge. 3. Moving forward after your family member returns home. Contact details for relevant support organisations are also provided.
PHA-NI	Concerned about suicide?	12/03/2025	This leaflet contains information on what you can say and do to help someone who may be thinking of suicide. It highlights the warning signs, explains the feelings a suicidal person can have and provides a step-by-step guide to having a conversation and helping someone you're worried about. It also lists a number of support services for people having suicidal thoughts.
PHA-NI	Take 5 steps to wellbeing (English and translations)	12/03/2025	Most of us know when we are mentally and physically well, but sometimes we need a little extra help to keep well. This leaflet and poster outline five simple ways in which people can maintain and improve their mental wellbeing. Translations into 12 languages are now available.

PHA-NI	Improving the lives of people who self-harm	12/03/2025	This leaflet offers information and advice for people who have self-harmed and their families, carers or friends. It will help people understand more about self harm and how to get support.
PHA-NI	Vaping factsheet, Talking to your child about vaping, Vaping addiction soon takes hold of you - poster for young people (female), Vaping addiction soon takes hold of you - poster for young people (male)	11/03/2025	This factsheet explains what vaping is and outlines the law which regulates the contents and sale of vapes. It considers the reasons why young people vape and why parents should be concerned. Posters aimed at young people highlights the addictive nature of vaping and signposts to the PHA website for further information.
PHA-NI	Regional Perinatal Mental Health Care Pathway	10/03/2025	The Regional Perinatal Mental Health Care Pathway has been developed to facilitate the prediction, detection and treatment of mental health problems in women in the antenatal and postnatal periods.
ESRI	Adjusting estimates of poverty for the cost of disability	13/03/2025	This study explores the economic impact of disability on households. Disabled people face a double economic penalty though lower average disposable income and higher average expenditure needs. We estimate that the cost of disability is 52-59 per cent of the disposable income of households with disabled members, and that this cost varies with the severity of disability.
PH Ontario	Measles in Ontario	13/03/2025	This report describes the epidemiology of measles in Ontario between January 1, 2013 and March 12, 2025, with a focus on the current outbreak. This report will be updated weekly as of March 13, 2025 until otherwise noted
HIQA	Regulation 23 Six-monthly Unannounced Visit	11/03/2025	We have developed a template for Regulation 23(2)(a) and (b) six-monthly unannounced visit by the registered provider (or delegate) to a designated centre for people with disabilities. The template is made up of an introduction and a template to support the reporting on the quality and safety of care and support. It also includes the plan to address any concerns identified with regards to the standard of care and support in residential services for children and adults with disabilities
HIQA	Protocol: Development of a tool for the collection of costs attributable to	10/03/2025	The overarching aim of this study is to develop and pilot a tool that can be used to estimate the key cost implications of resources

	infectious disease outbreaks in public acute hospitals		used during hospital outbreaks in Ireland. Outbreaks of diseases within hospitals are an ongoing challenge for the healthcare system: they can cause longer hospitalisation, prolonged illness, and sometimes death for infected individuals. Some outbreaks involve infections caused by antimicrobial-resistant microorganisms, meaning bacteria and viruses that have developed the ability to survive treatment with medicines that are meant to kill them. These outbreaks can be associated with even longer hospital stays, high resource use, and a significant impact on the welfare and finances of patients and their families. This protocol sets out the steps planned for a mixed-methods research study to guide the development of an outbreak costing tool for use in Irish acute hospitals. The planned work will include scoping meetings, a systematic review, a development process, and piloting. The final costing tool will enable hospitals to collect a core dataset that can be used to estimate the key cost implications of resources used during outbreaks from a public healthcare perspective.
PHS	Guidance to support opt-out blood borne virus (BBV) testing in Scottish prisons	11/03/2025	This guidance aims to ensure that, regardless of geographical location and prison status, all prison residents have equity of access to high quality blood-borne virus testing. This guidance provides a common definition of opt-out testing and outlines how this be delivered across the Scottish prison estate.
AHRQ	Webinar - March 18: Safety Culture in Healthcare: Improving Safety Culture Using Teamwork and Patient Safety Norms	Mar-25	This free webinar sponsored by the National Action Alliance for Patient and Workforce Safety is the second of a three-part series on Safety Culture in Healthcare. The webinar will discuss how to improve teamwork in healthcare settings using TeamSTEPPS tools and strategies and provide an overview of the Comprehensive Unit-based Safety Program and focus on the role of teamwork to improve safety culture.
AHRQ	New Interactive Data Resource Illustrates Trends in Sepsis Hospital Care	Mar-25	A new interactive tool from AHRQ allows researchers, policymakers and others to explore trends in hospital care for sepsis, a life-threatening condition that is among the most expensive to treat in U.S. hospitals.

EvidenceAlerts	Influenza vaccination for healthcare workers who care for people aged 60 or older living in long-term care institutions	Mar-25	To assess the effects of vaccinating healthcare workers in long-term care institutions against influenza on influenza-related outcomes in residents aged 60 years or older. Outcomes of interest were: influenza (confirmed by laboratory tests) and its complications (lower respiratory tract infection; hospitalisation or death due to lower respiratory tract infection), all-cause mortality, and adverse events. The effects of HCW vaccination on influenza-specific outcomes in older residents of LTCIs are uncertain. The reduction in all-cause mortality in people observed could not be explained by changes in influenza-specific outcomes. This review did not find information on co-interventions with HCW vaccination: hand washing, face masks, early detection of laboratory-proven influenza, quarantine, avoiding admissions, antivirals and asking HCWs with influenza or influenza-like illness not to go to work. Better studies are needed to give greater certainty in the evidence for vaccinating HCWs to prevent influenza in residents aged 60 years or older in LTCIs. Additional studies are needed to further test these interventions in combination.
EEA	Mycotoxin exposure in a changing European climate	10/03/2025	Mycotoxins are toxins from fungi which contaminate crops, food and feed. Climate change alters fungal behaviour and distribution, increasing the risk of exposure to these toxins. This briefing explores associated health concerns and how a One Health approach can prevent contamination.
EPA	PestMan: Pesticide Management for Better Water Quality	Mar-25	The overarching aim of this research was to use a multidisciplinary approach merging knowledge of soil processes, molecular biology, engineering and quantitative risk assessment methodologies to (1) gain an understanding of the drivers of and pressures caused by the use of pesticides in the environment; (2) examine the fate and persistence of pesticides; (3) evaluate any potential impact on and risks to the environment and human health from pesticides; and (4) develop a low-cost, passive, in situ remediation method, to mitigate the problems caused by pesticides in the environment.

IAEA	What are Molten Salt Reactors?	11/03/2025	International interest is increasing in molten salt reactors, because they have the potential to provide large amounts of efficient and cost-effective electricity and produce high-temperature process heat usable for various industrial applications
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Weekly Evidence Surveillance 21/03/2025

Source	Item	Pub Date	Details
ECDC	Influenza virus characterization - Summary Europe, November 2024	21/03/2025	Genetic and antigenic characterization data generated at the Worldwide Influenza Centre for viruses with collection dates from 1 February 2024 until 31 August 2024 informed the WHO influenza vaccine composition meeting (VCM) in September 2024 when recommendations were made for the Southern hemisphere (SH) 2025 influenza season.
ECDC	Avian influenza overview December 2024-March 2025	21/03/2025	Between 7 December 2024 and 7 March 2025, 743 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) A(H5) virus detections were reported in domestic (239) and wild (504) birds across 31 countries in Europe. HPAI A(H5N1) virus detections were predominant and mainly located in central, western and south-eastern Europe. No evidence of human-to-human transmission has been documented during the reporting period
ECDC	Guide for EU-level external quality assessments (EQAs) for public health microbiology laboratories	19/03/2025	This guide is intended to provide a set of principles for EURLs for public health on how to plan, coordinate, and implement EU-level EQAs for public health microbiology laboratories.
ECDC	Protocol for the surveillance of healthcare-associated infections and prevention indicators in European intensive care units, HAI-Net ICU protocol, version 2.3,	18/03/2025	The main objective of this protocol is to ensure standardisation of definitions, data collection and reporting procedures for hospitals participating in the national/regional surveillance of healthcare-associated infection (HAIs) in intensive care units (ICUs) across Europe, to contribute to the EU surveillance of HAIs and to improve the quality of care in ICUs in a multicentre setting.
ECDC	ECDC country visit to Serbia to discuss surveillance of communicable diseases	18/03/2025	ECDC cooperates with countries in the Western Balkans and Türkiye to improve their infectious disease prevention and control systems and public health workforce to prepare them for their future participation in ECDC's work.

WHO	Compendium of best practices and case studies in quality of care, patient safety, infection prevention and control in lower- and middle-income countries	21/03/2025	Peer-reviewed collection of best practices and case studies on quality of care, IPC and patient safety
WHO	Asia-Pacific Rabies Meeting Bangkok, Thailand, 16–18 July 2024	20/03/2025	The general objective of the meeting was to strengthen, innovate and sustain intersectoral coordination and collaboration between human and animal health sectors to accelerate prevention, control and elimination of dog-mediated human rabies through the One Health approach in the Asia-Pacific region, and achieve the goal of Zero by 2030.
WHO	Meeting of Regional Partners' Forum: Sustain, accelerate and innovate to end neglected tropical diseases in South-East Asia, New Delhi, 16–17 April 2024	20/03/2025	This meeting provided a platform for health professionals and policy-makers to share insights, strategies and innovations, aimed at eradicating, eliminating and controlling neglected tropical diseases in the Region; high-ranking officials made notable contributions.
WHO	Integrated approach to tuberculosis and lung health	20/03/2025	The policy brief highlights the urgent need to prioritize and implement integrated, people-centred care, emphasizing the critical intersections between TB and other lung conditions.
WHO	Infection prevention and control and water, sanitation and hygiene in health facilities during Ebola or Marburg disease outbreaks	19/03/2025	The Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) rapid assessment tool (RAT), is meant to assess health facilities with at least one inpatient bed identified as high risk to receive or have already received patients with suspected or confirmed Ebola disease (EBOD) or Marburg disease (MARD).
WHO	Regional Workshop on conversion of emergency use authorization to full marketing authorization for pandemic vaccines	19/03/2025	The regional workshop on Conversion of emergency use authorization to full marketing authorization for pandemic vaccines was conducted in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 21–23 November 2023 by the Immunization and Vaccines Unit at

			the WHO Regional Office in collaboration with WHO headquarters and TGA Australia.
WHO	Air pollution and health training toolkit for health workers: train-the-trainers manual	16/03/2025	The APHT toolkit for health workers is a comprehensive set of training materials exploring different air pollution and health topics and reflecting global and regional challenges that can serve different types of audiences while taking into account the variety of roles within the health sector.
CDC	Case Finding Among and Comprehensive Management of Household Contacts of Persons with Pulmonary Tuberculosis: a Pilot Project — Uganda, 2023–2024 MMWR	20/03/2025	This pilot project enrolled 521 index patients with TB disease at six health facilities in Uganda. Among 1,913 household contacts, 90.9% were screened for TB; 1,239 initiated preventive treatment, approximately 95% of whom completed it. Eighty new cases of TB were diagnosed. The approach included home visits, chest radiography, adherence counseling, and travel reimbursements.
CDC	Notes from the Field: Rhodesiense Human African Trypanosomiasis (Sleeping Sickness) in a Traveler Returning from Zimbabwe — United States, August 2024 MMWR	20/03/2025	A U.S. traveler returning from Zimbabwe in August 2024 developed rhodesiense HAT and was successfully treated after prompt diagnosis. Three additional cases in persons from other countries who traveled to the same region were reported to the World Health Organization. These are the first Zambezi Valley–associated cases reported since 2019.
CDC	Functional Disability, Violence, HIV Status, and Risk Factors for HIV Among Adolescent Girls and Young Women — Eswatini, 2022 MMWR	20/03/2025	In Eswatini, adolescent girls and young women aged 13–24 years with functional disabilities (difficulties in performing activities) had higher prevalences of experiencing sexual, physical, and emotional violence, but in adjusted analyses, disability was not associated with higher prevalence of HIV infection.
UKHSA	Blood donor travel survey - GOV.UK	21/03/2025	This travel survey on blood donors in England will help improve blood donation safety by understanding travel patterns and accuracy of recall among blood donors.
UKHSA	Adverse Weather and Health Plan - GOV.UK	20/03/2025	Added new version of Adverse Weather and Health Plan.

UKHSA	National mycobacterium reference service - South: user handbook - GOV.UK	20/03/2025	Added Cepheid GeneXert MTB/XDR assay information and updated contact and testing details.
UKHSA	High consequence infectious disease: country specific risk - GOV.UK	20/03/2025	Mpox (clade I) has been removed due to derogation as a HCID. Ebola (Sudan virus) in Uganda has been updated for the current 2025 outbreak.
UKHSA	HAIRS risk assessment: mpox - GOV.UK	20/03/2025	Update to the Avian Flu section of the October 2024 summary. Removal of December summary that was uploaded in error.
UKHSA	COVID-19 vaccination: spring 2025 campaign resources - GOV.UK	19/03/2025	New leaflet for the Spring 2025 programme added.
UKHSA	COVID-19 vaccination: information for healthcare practitioners - GOV.UK	19/03/2025	Updated to align with the revised Green Book chapter 14a published on 19 March 2025 and the recommendations for the spring 2025 vaccination campaign
UKHSA	Latest update on Clade Ib mpox - GOV.UK	19/03/2025	Updated with latest information on mpox derogation.
UKHSA	High consequence infectious diseases (HCID) - GOV.UK	19/03/2025	Updated the "Hospital management of confirmed HCID cases" section.
UKHSA	Urgent public health messages - GOV.UK	19/03/2025	Added urgent publication health message on derogation of clade I mpox.
UKHSA	COVID-19: the green book, chapter 14a - GOV.UK	19/03/2025	Updated to include vaccine choice, doses and eligibility criteria for Spring 2025 campaign. Table 1 and figure 1 updated. Updated availability of vaccine outside the national programme.
UKHSA	Candidozyma auris (formerly Candida auris): guidance for acute healthcare settings - GOV.UK	19/03/2025	Candidozyma auris (C.auris): laboratory investigation, management and infection prevention and control of cases.
UKHSA	Derogation of clade I mpox - GOV.UK	19/03/2025	Urgent public health message advising that clade I mpox no longer meets the criteria of a high consequence infectious disease (HCID).

UKHSA	Laser radiation: introduction and safety advice - GOV.UK	18/03/2025	Updated. These documents include an introduction to lasers and laser safety and guidelines on the safety of hand-held laser pointers and laser pens.
UKHSA	COMEAP: reports and statements - GOV.UK	18/03/2025	Added "Advice given to the Air Quality Information System (AQIS) review Steering Group".
UKHSA	Measles, mumps, rubella: oral fluid testing forms and instructions - GOV.UK	18/03/2025	Updated 'Measles, mumps, rubella: laboratory request form for oral fluid confirmation and patient letter template'
UKHSA	Expansion of Disease Reporting Requirements - GOV.UK	18/03/2025	From April 6, 2025, UKHSA requires medical professionals to report 8 more diseases, while labs must report 10 new pathogens to boost surveillance.
UKHSA	Mpox: affected countries - GOV.UK	17/03/2025	Updated to include clade II mpox and world map of mpox clade distribution.
HIQA	Outcome of prioritisation process for national standards for health and social care and tools to support implementation 2025-2027 HIQA	18/03/2025	This document outlines a review and prioritisation of existing national standards, guidance and tools, and a proposed three-year work programme in this area based on the prioritisation process.
PHS	Patient Group Direction Template: Administration of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines to individuals under 18 years - version 5 - Patient Group Direction Template: Administration of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines to individuals aged under 18 years - Publications - Public Health Scotland	20/03/2025	The following changes to version 4.0 of the PGD have been made: · Section 1.4 Co-administration with other vaccines section updated to include Pregnant women can safely have Abrysvo® co-administered with influenza vaccine, anti-D immunoglobulin or COVID-19 vaccine. · Section 2.10 information added to clarify revaccination of patients following haematopoietic stem cell transplant of CAR-T treatment is considered off-label but is in accordance with the Scottish Haematology Society schedule.
PHS	Patient Group Direction Template: Administration of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines to individuals aged 18 years and over – version 5 - Patient Group Direction Template:	20/03/2025	The following changes to version 4.0 of the PGD have been made: · Section 1.4 Co-administration with other vaccines section updated to include pregnant women can safely have Abrysvo® co-administered with influenza vaccine, anti-D immunoglobulin or COVID-19 vaccine. ·

	Administration of COVID-19 mRNA vaccines to individuals aged 18 years and over - Publications - Public Health Scotland		Section 2.10 Is the use outwith the SmPC section updated to clarify SmPC is for Comirnaty JN.1 in relation to 15 minute observation.
PHS	COVID-19 spring vaccine poster for adults - Publications - Public Health Scotland	19/03/2025	A poster promoting the uptake of the 2025 COVID-19 spring vaccination to eligible adults.
PHS	COVID-19 spring vaccine poster for people with a weakened immune system - Publications - Public Health Scotland	19/03/2025	A poster promoting the uptake of the 2025 COVID-19 spring vaccination in those with weakened immune systems.
PHS	COVID-19 spring vaccine poster for care homes - Publications - Public Health Scotland	19/03/2025	A poster promoting the uptake of the 2025 COVID-19 spring vaccination to those in care homes.
PHS	Scottish Burden of Disease Study 18 March 2025 - Scottish Burden of Disease Study - Publications - Public Health Scotland	18/03/2025	This release by Public Health Scotland (PHS) includes summary reports detailing analyses carried out by the Scottish Burden of Disease study (SBoD) to project the prevalence of atrial fibrillation, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and chronic liver disease over the next two decade
PHS	Purpose and scope - Guidance for the public health management of MERS-CoV infections - version 2 - Guidance for the public health management of MERS-CoV infections - Publications - Public Health Scotland	17/03/2025	Key changes include: removal of section detailing roles and responsibilities of NIMT (refer instead to IERP), consolidation of the separate algorithms and appendices into actions for the HPTs, update of the case and control definitions and update of PHS and UKHSA contact details. Laboratory and travel sections reviewed and updated by relevant PHS teams. ARHAI have confirmed extant IPC advice to remain in place until further notice.
EvidenceAlerts	Latest alerts		Safety and immunogenicity of a pentavalent meningococcal conjugate vaccine targeting serogroups A, C, W, Y, and X when co-administered with routine childhood vaccines at ages 9 months and 15 months in

			<p>Mali: a single-centre, double-blind, randomised, controlled, phase 3, non-inferiority trial. Lancet</p> <p>Immunogenicity, safety, and efficacy of the vaccine H56:IC31 in reducing the rate of tuberculosis disease recurrence in HIV-negative adults successfully treated for drug-susceptible pulmonary tuberculosis: a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, phase 2b trial. Lancet Infectious Diseases</p> <p>Low-Dose Yellow Fever Vaccine in Adults in Africa. New England Journal of Medicine</p>
EPA	Research 481: Addressing the Political Economic Barriers to Climate Adaptation in Ireland Environmental Protection Agency	Mar-25	<p>The research indicates that political, economic, and social factors hinder Ireland's climate adaptation progress. Barriers include a perceived lack of urgency and the competition between adaptation and immediate short-term priorities. This report provides a roadmap for policymakers, sector leaders, and communities to strengthen adaptation efforts.</p>
IAEA	Ocean Acidification IAEA	19/03/2025	<p>Ocean acidification, a consequence of climate change caused by the ocean's absorption of carbon dioxide (CO₂), is threatening the environment. Because of its global scale, addressing ocean acidification comes with its own challenges.</p>
IAEA	Focus on Safe Management of Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste at Eighth Review Meeting of the Joint Convention IAEA	17/03/2025	<p>Ageing management of packages and facilities for spent fuel and radioactive waste, and ways to safely manage disused sealed sources for the long term are being discussed this week at the Eighth Review Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management.</p>

IAEA	From Disaster Recovery to Saving Cultural Heritage: IAEA Boosts Assistance to Countries in Non-Destructive Testing IAEA	18/03/2025	To help countries better prepare for these natural disasters, the IAEA has recently increased its services in non-destructive testing, by opening a new training centre and by issuing guidelines, aimed at building capacity in this life saving technique.
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ProMED	Latest alerts	<p>21 Mar 2025 Bacterial blight, cauliflower - USA: (CA)</p> <p>21 Mar 2025 Salmonellosis - USA: (MD) horse</p> <p>21 Mar 2025 Alpha-gal syndrome - USA: (ME, WA) other tick sensitizers</p> <p>21 Mar 2025 Leishmaniasis, visceral - Somalia: (SA) outbreak</p> <p>21 Mar 2025 Malaria - Yemen: (TA) tally of cases, MOH</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Trypanosomiasis, African - USA: ex Zimbabwe, rhodesiense, Zambezi Valley alert</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Botulism - Russia: (RO) canned peppers</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Varicella - Colombia: (RI) prison</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Sheep pox & goat pox - Israel: sheep, WOA</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Foot & mouth disease - Tunisia (02): (JE) cattle, fatal, spread</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Tuberculosis - India (05)</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Foot & mouth disease - Cambodia (02): (SR) cattle, WOA</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Foot & mouth disease - South Korea (03): (CN) cattle, st O, WOA</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Dengue/DHF update (33): Americas, CDC</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Measles - Portugal</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Rabies (24): Philippines, national update</p> <p>20 Mar 2025 Hantavirus - Asia (02): Taiwan, northern region</p> <p>19 Mar 2025 Lassa fever - Nigeria (12): (BE) fatal</p> <p>19 Mar 2025 Measles - Kyrgyzstan: fatal</p> <p>19 Mar 2025 Listeriosis - UK: flavored mousse, hospital and nursing homes, alert, recall, fatal</p> <p>19 Mar 2025 Kyasanur Forest disease - India (02): (KA) fatal</p> <p>19 Mar 2025 Measles - Yemen (02): (MA) increasing incidence, fatal, MOH</p>
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		<p>increase, fatal</p> <p>16 Mar 2025 Brucellosis - Indonesia: (JB) dairy cow</p> <p>16 Mar 2025 Avian influenza (78): South Korea (KN) wild bird, H5</p> <p>16 Mar 2025 Japanese encephalitis - Australia (07): (NS)</p> <p>16 Mar 2025 Foot & mouth disease - South Korea: (CN) cattle</p> <p>16 Mar 2025 Foot & mouth disease - Hungary (01): (GS) serotype O</p> <p>16 Mar 2025 Foodborne illness - Viet Nam (01): (TH) mushrooms, fatal</p> <p>16 Mar 2025 Tick-borne encephalitis, Lyme disease & ehrlichiosis - Latvia</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Measles - USA (31): (MI, OK)</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Foodborne illness - Indonesia: (NT) beef consumption, RFI</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Gastroenteritis - Pakistan: (NW) outbreak</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 MERS-CoV - Saudi Arabia: WHO</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Meningitis, viral - India: (KL)</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Avian influenza (77): India (BR) poultry, H5N1</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Undiagnosed deaths, horse - Pakistan: (PB) RFI</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Gastroenteritis - Hungary: (PT)</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Hepatitis A - India: (KL)</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Cholera, diarrhea & dysentery update (21): South Sudan (JG) increasing incidence, fatal</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Measles - France: ex Morocco, imported cases, MOH</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Mumps - India: (TN)</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Salmonellosis, st Muenchen - USA: CDC, gecko exposure</p> <p>15 Mar 2025 Hepatitis A - Canada (02): (AB) infected food</p>
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Weekly Evidence Surveillance 28th March 2025

Source	Item	Pub Date	Summary Details
ECDC	Communicable disease threats report, 22-28 March 2025, week 13	28/03/2025	The ECDC Communicable Disease Threats Report (CDTR) is a weekly bulletin for epidemiologists and health professionals on active public health threats. This issue of the CDTR covers the period 22-28 March 2025 and includes updates on influenza A(H5N1), chikungunya, dengue, Ebola, tuberculosis and an overview of respiratory virus epidemiology in the EU/EEA.
ECDC	Tuberculosis surveillance and monitoring in Europe 2025 - 2023 data	24/03/2025	This report provides an overview of the latest tuberculosis (TB) epidemiological situation and is published jointly by the WHO Regional Office for Europe and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. In 2023, 38 993 cases of TB were reported in 29 European Union and European Economic Area (EU/ EEA) countries, resulting in a notification rate of 8.6 per 100 000 population in the EU/ EEA. This represented a continuation of the slight increase observed in most countries for 2022, while the overall trend has continued to decrease over the last five years. Exceptions to this trend were Cyprus, Greece, Iceland and Slovakia where an increase of 1–3% was observed in 2023 against data reported for 2019. However, the rates for 2020–2021 should be interpreted with caution, given the measures implemented to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic and their impact on TB data collection and patient access to health services.
ECDC	Tuberculosis molecular surveillance status report, focusing on rifampicin and multi-drug resistance in the EU/EEA	24/03/2025	The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) has analysed whole genome sequencing (WGS) profiles of rifampicin resistant (RR)- and multi-drug resistant (MDR) Mycobacterium tuberculosis strains, collected between 2020 and 2023 in the European Union (EU) and European Economic Area (EEA). The results were added to tuberculosis (TB) WGS data collected during the period 2017–2019 as a part of an EU/EEA pilot project on TB molecular surveillance.
ECDC	Does COVID-19 vaccination reduce the risk and duration of post COVID-19 condition?	25/03/2025	Whilst it is well established that COVID-19 vaccination protects against severe outcomes of acute SARS-CoV-2 infection, such as hospitalisation and death, there is still uncertainty as to whether vaccination also reduces the risk and/or duration of a wide range of post-acute COVID-19 symptoms, commonly referred to as 'long COVID'. Assessment of evidence is complicated by the wide range of qualifying symptoms, minimum symptom durations and time-since-infection criteria used to define 'long COVID' in observational studies. In response, the

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			World Health Organization (WHO) has established consolidated clinical case definitions for post-acute COVID-19 symptoms in adults and children/adolescents, applying the specific terminology 'post COVID-19 condition' (PCC), to support harmonised reporting on post-acute COVID-19 outcomes. Determining whether COVID-19 vaccination reduces the risk and/or duration of PCC may critically inform decision-making on public health interventions to reduce the burden of COVID-19 disease.
ECDC	Protocol for the surveillance of surgical site infections and prevention indicators in European hospitals, version 2.3	25/03/2025	The main objective of this European protocol for the surveillance of surgical site infections is to ensure standardisation of definitions, data collection and reporting procedures for hospitals participating in the national/regional surveillance of surgical site infections across Europe, in order to contribute to the EU surveillance of healthcare-associated infections and to improve the quality of care in a multicentre setting.
WHO	Ethics and governance of artificial intelligence for health: Guidance on large multi-modal models	25/03/2025	Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to the capability of algorithms integrated into systems and tools to learn from data so that they can perform automated tasks without explicit programming of every step by a human. Generative AI is a category of AI techniques in which algorithms are trained on data sets that can be used to generate new content, such as text, images or video. This guidance addresses one type of generative AI, large multi-modal models (LMMs), which can accept one or more type of data input and generate diverse outputs that are not limited to the type of data fed into the algorithm. It has been predicted that LMMs will have wide use and application in health care, scientific research, public health and drug development. LMMs are also known as “general-purpose foundation models”, although it is not yet proven whether LMMs can accomplish a wide range of tasks and purposes.
WHO	Interim guidance on social and behavioural research for the mpox public health response, March 2025	24/03/2025	This interim guidance aims to clarify standards for high-quality, ethical, social and behavioural research to strengthen the public health response to the ongoing mpox PHEIC for community protection. The guidance is particularly relevant to rapid research that aims to inform near- to real-time decision-making and action but is equally applicable to longer-term research that may be critical for informing future outbreak preparedness and response.

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WHO	Country experiences on implementation of traceability for medical products	21/03/2025	Traceability systems offer the technical possibility to trace medical products along the supply chain – from final stage manufacture to the ultimate place where the medical product is administered to an individual – with a view to strengthening the near real-time monitoring of the integrity of product. There is global recognition that traceability systems can be leveraged as useful tools to ensure the integrity and improve the efficiency of supply chains. Traceability may not be able to completely block falsified medical products from entering the supply chain but implemented alongside the considerations contained in this policy paper, it can minimize the risk and allow for earlier detection and response
WHO	Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation of the COVID-19 Humanitarian Response: Report	25/03/2025	The Inter-Agency Evaluation of the COVID-19 response is the largest inter-agency humanitarian evaluation to date. The subject of the evaluation is the collective IASC preparedness and humanitarian response at the global, regional, and country levels to meet the humanitarian needs of people in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The evaluation is global and includes eight case studies (Bangladesh, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Syria, and Turkey). The evaluation also includes two learning papers that provide a more in-depth analysis of two specific issues associated with the response Lessons Learned on Global Humanitarian Response Plan and Localization in the COVID-19 response.
WHO	Health science and policy summaries- advanced draft	28/03/2025	The WHO Air Quality, Energy and Health Science and Policy Summaries (SPS) provide concise overviews of current knowledge and evidence on topics related to air quality, energy access, climate change, and health. These summaries aim to support decision-makers by presenting key insights from scientific research.
WHO	Multi-country outbreak of mpox, External situation report #49 - 28 March 2025	28/03/2025	This is the 49th situation report for the multi-country outbreak of mpox, which provides details on the latest epidemiological trends, including an update on the global mpox epidemiological situation, as of 28 February 2025, the epidemiological situation for mpox in Africa, with data as of 16 March 2025 and the operational response updates and updates on imported mpox cases as of 21 February 2025.
CDC	Fatal Case of Splash Pad– Associated Naegleria fowleri Meningoencephalitis — Pulaski	27/03/2025	A fatal case of primary amebic meningoencephalitis (PAM), an infection caused by Naegleria fowleri, was diagnosed in Arkansas in a young child in September 2023. A public health investigation was completed, with epidemiologic, laboratory, and environmental data suggesting that a splash pad (an interactive water play

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	County, Arkansas, September 2023		venue that sprays or jets water on users and has little or no standing water) with inadequately disinfected water was the most likely site of the patient's <i>N. fowleri</i> exposure. This case is the third occurrence of splash pad–associated PAM reported in the United States; all three cases involved inadequately disinfected water. PAM should be considered in patients with acute meningoencephalitis and a history of recent possible exposure to fresh water, including treated recreational water (e.g., in splash pads or pools), via the nasal passages. Proper design, construction, operation, and management of splash pads can help prevent illnesses, including <i>N. fowleri</i> infections. Increased awareness, collaboration, and communication among clinicians, hospitals, laboratories, CDC, health departments, the aquatics sector, and the public can help support <i>N. fowleri</i> infection identification, treatment, prevention, and control efforts.
CDC	Newly Reported Chronic Hepatitis C Among Adults — Alaska, 2016–2023	27/03/2025	Hepatitis C virus is a leading cause of chronic liver disease, hepatocellular carcinoma, and liver-related death and is targeted for global elimination as a public health threat by 2030. Universal screening is recommended for all adults aged ≥18 years and pregnant women during each pregnancy; periodic risk-based screening also is recommended. Persons with current infection should be linked to antiviral treatment, which usually results in a virologic cure within 8–12 weeks. To assess progress toward elimination, epidemiologic trends in newly reported chronic hepatitis C cases were assessed among adult Alaska residents during 2016–2023. Overall, 5,352 confirmed chronic hepatitis C cases were newly reported among adults aged ≥18 years. The average annual rate (cases per 100,000 population) was 121 and decreased a relative 30% from 142 during 2016–2019 to 99 during 2020–2023. Statistically significant decreases occurred for most groups. Groups with higher average rates included males, adults aged 18–39 years, residents of rural areas, and American Indian or Alaska Native persons. Hepatitis C surveillance can help monitor trends in health outcomes and identify groups needing tailored testing and treatment interventions toward hepatitis C elimination.
UKHSA	Flood-health action card for the voluntary and community sector	27/03/2025	This flood-health action card summarises the suggested health-related actions that voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations should take to prepare for, respond to and recover from flooding.
UKHSA	Flood-health action card for health and social care providers	27/03/2025	This flood-health action card summarises the suggested health-related actions that providers of health or social care should take to prepare for, respond to and

Source	Item	Pub Date	Summary Details
			recover from flooding. It is intended primarily for: managers and staff in hospitals; adult or children's social care providers in care homes and other residential settings; health and/or social care providers in the community operating from fixed sites such as GP surgeries; services delivering care to people in their homes. These include actions to consider: supporting flood preparedness all year round; pre-flood readiness and flood event preparedness; responding to flooding; recovering from flooding.
UKHSA	Flood-health action card for commissioners	27/03/2025	This flood-health action card summarises the suggested health-related actions that commissioners of health and social care should take to prepare for, respond to and recover from flooding. The intended audience includes: commissioners of health and social care services; local authorities; directors of public health; integrated care systems. These include actions to consider: supporting flood preparedness all year round; pre-flood readiness and flood event preparedness; responding to flooding; recovering from flooding.
UKHSA	Pre-entry health assessment protocol for UK-bound individuals under various resettlement schemes	27/03/2025	This protocol describes the aim, objectives and scope of the pre-entry health assessment for individuals who are resettled to the UK. It is applicable to the UK Resettlement Scheme and the Afghan Resettlement Programme and may be applicable to similar ones which may be introduced in the future. The protocol is intended as a resource for International Organization for Migration (IOM) clinical staff, UK based accommodation providers and organisations supporting resettlement in the UK, and for UK health and social care providers.
UKHSA	Priority pathogen families research and development tool	25/03/2025	<p>To support delivery of the UK Biological Security Strategy, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has developed a reference tool which describes important pathogen families where investment into research and development of diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines (DTVs) may be most needed.</p> <p>This tool has been developed through the collective knowledge and opinions of subject matter experts within UKHSA, and may not reflect the views of wider UK government. It does not constitute a commitment from the UK government to fund research and development into DTVs for the pathogen families included, or to fund production or purchase of DTVs that arise from such research.</p>

Source	Item	Pub Date	Summary Details
UKHSA	Biological principles for control of mpox in the UK: 4 nations consensus statement	24/03/2025	A statement on the how UK public health agencies will handle future mpox outbreaks.
UKHSA	Mpox: information for contacts of cases of mpox	24/03/2025	UPDATED: Follow-up advice for contacts of an mpox case.
UKHSA	Contact tracing guidance for mpox	24/03/2025	This guidance provides principles for risk assessment and follow-up of contacts of confirmed mpox cases. It is intended to support risk assessment and categorisation of contacts to ensure they are offered appropriate public health and isolation advice.
UKHSA	Rates of pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) diagnoses in England (2014 to 2023): an outcome of STIs and other factors	27/03/2025	The main messages from this report are that: from 2014 to 2023, in 15 to 44 year old women, more pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) diagnoses were made in hospital inpatients than in either sexual health services (SHSs) or general practice (GP) clinics. In hospital inpatients, PID diagnosis rates in 15 to 44 year old women increased gradually from 2014 to 2019, dropped in 2020, then resumed the increasing trend; in SHSs and GPs, PID diagnosis rates decreased from 2014 to 2023, with a marked drop during 2020. In 2023, PID diagnosis rates were 238 per 100,000 population in hospital inpatient settings (26,454 diagnoses), 67 per 100,000 population in SHSs settings (7,499 diagnoses), and 107 per 100,000 person-years in GP settings (3,500 diagnoses). The distribution of PID diagnosis rates by age group differed between settings: in hospital inpatients, rates were highest in the older age groups studied, 30 to 34 and 35 to 44; in SHSs, rates were highest in the 20 to 24 and 25 to 29 age groups; in GPs, rates were relatively similar across all age groups over 20. Among 15 to 24 year old women, diagnoses of PID at SHSs declined in all sub-groups defined by co-diagnosis with chlamydia (CT-PID), gonorrhoea (GC-PID), or neither (NS-PID), since 2014; however, GC-PID fluctuated and declined notably less.
UKHSA	Travel-associated infections in England, Wales and Northern Ireland: 2024	27/03/2025	This report, produced by the Travel Health and International Health Regulations (IHR) team in the Epidemic and Emerging Infections Directorate, UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), summarises case numbers of selected travel-associated infections reported in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (EWNI). The data presented in this report supersedes any other case numbers previously reported. Detailed information is included on the trends of chikungunya, cholera, dengue, rickettsial infections and Zika virus disease in 2024. An infection

Source	Item	Pub Date	Summary Details
			summary and key findings are provided for Japanese encephalitis, Oropouche virus disease and yellow fever. Data presented here is collated from a variety of sources and may be subject to limitations in completeness due to various factors, including underreporting.
UKHSA	HAIRS risk assessment: influenza of avian origin in lactating livestock	27/03/2025	In this assessment, the risk associated with human exposure to all lactating livestock is being considered, not just dairy animals that are habitually kept for the production of milk for commercial reasons. This follows the finding of avian influenza (AI) virus in a lactating ewe in March 2025, which had been in close contact with captive birds at a backyard premises, which had previously been confirmed as being infected with highly pathogenic AI A(H5N1). On initial testing, the ewe was positive for serological activity for the AI A(H5) antigen but was negative for influenza viral RNA from nasal and rectal swabs. On retesting, the blood from this single ewe was again seropositive for the AI A(H5) antigen and its milk was also PCR positive. Further testing at postmortem gave negative PCR results for all organs and tissue samples, but again a PCR positive for milk was detected and seropositivity in blood detected for this single animal. The ewe was confirmed as the first livestock infection in the UK with AI A(H5N1) on the 21 March 2025. The risk of spread from this single premises is considered negligible, because affected animals were culled and there were no tracings to other livestock establishments or trade (domestic or international) of live animals or products.
UKHSA	Infectious diseases impacting England: 2025 report	25/03/2025	This annual report, published by UKHSA for the first time, summarises the latest infectious disease and infection trends, the impact they are having on England and what is being done by the agency and its partners to control and prevent their spread. It brings together previously published data on a range of infectious diseases and infections into one place, with the report focusing particularly on the post-pandemic period from 2023 to 2024, a period in which a number of factors have altered the spread of endemic and epidemic infectious diseases.
UKHSA	Gastrointestinal infections in England: 2022 to 2024	25/03/2025	The annual number of confirmed laboratory reports, in England, and the rate of reporting, are provided for the period 2022 to 2024.
UKHSA	Early impact of RSV vaccination in older adults in England	24/03/2025	Research letter published in The Lancet: Population-based analyses of new vaccination programmes provide robust real-world evidence for post-licensure vaccine evaluation. A 2023–24 vaccine effectiveness analysis of

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			immunocompetent adults aged 60 years or older in the USA showed 80% (95% CI 71–85) protection against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)-associated hospital admissions. ¹ In England, the UK Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation advised an initial programme for those turning 75 years old, with a catch-up to age 79 years, pending further data on protection of those who are older. ^{2–4} On Sept 1, 2024, vaccination of individuals aged 75–79 years began in England using bivalent prefusion F (pre-F) vaccine (Abrysvo, Pfizer, New York, NY, USA). We conducted an early assessment of the RSV vaccine programme's impact on RSV-related hospitalisations in older adults using a regression discontinuity design study.
PHA-NI	Whooping Cough (Pertussis) immunisation - Leaflet	24/03/2025	This leaflet encourages uptake of the whooping cough vaccine for pregnant women. Getting the vaccine while pregnant can protect your baby. The whooping cough vaccine is now available through your Health and Social Care Trust antenatal clinic as well as your GP practice, making it more accessible for you.
PHA-NI	Splenectomy factsheet for health professionals	23/03/2025	This guidance is for health professionals who deal with adults or children with no functioning spleen or splenic dysfunction and includes a suggested schedule of immunisation.
PH Ontario	Recommendations: Measles Post-Exposure Prophylaxis for Individuals Who Are Immunocompromised Due to Disease or Therapy	21/03/2025	Outlines OIAC recommendations on measles post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for individuals who are immunocompromised and describes scientific evidence, feasibility considerations and expert clinical input considered in the guidance development process.
HPRA	Drug Safety Newsletter – Edition 118 – 25 March 2025	25/03/2025	The latest edition of the HPRA newsletter includes important updates to support the safe and appropriate use of the following medicines: Glatiramer acetate: Anaphylactic reactions may occur months up to years after treatment initiation; Medroxyprogesterone acetate: Risk of meningioma and measures to minimise this risk; Product information updates recommended by the EMA's Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC); Direct Healthcare Professional Communications published on the HPRA website since the last Drug Safety Newsletter
PHS	Protect yourself against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	26/03/2025	This guide provides information on the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine which is offered to adults aged 75 and over to help protect them against infections caused by RSV.

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Evidence Alerts	Low-Dose Yellow Fever Vaccine in Adults in Africa	19/02/2025	<p>BACKGROUND: Yellow fever vaccine is highly effective with a single dose, but vaccine supply is limited. The minimum dose requirements for seroconversion remain unknown.</p> <p>METHODS: In this double-blind, randomized, noninferiority trial in Uganda and Kenya, we assigned adults with no history of yellow fever vaccination or infection to receive vaccination with the Institut Pasteur de Dakar 17D-204 yellow fever vaccine at a standard dose (13,803 IU) or at a fractional dose of 1000 IU, 500 IU, or 250 IU. The primary outcome was seroconversion at 28 days after vaccination with each fractional dose as compared with the standard dose, evaluated in a noninferiority analysis. Seroconversion was defined as an antibody titer at day 28 that was at least four times as high as the antibody titer before vaccination, as measured by a plaque reduction neutralization test. We conducted noninferiority analyses in the per-protocol and intention-to-treat populations. Noninferiority was shown if the lower boundary of the 95% confidence interval for the difference in the incidence of seroconversion between the fractional dose and the standard dose was higher than -10 percentage points.</p> <p>RESULTS: A total of 480 participants underwent randomization (120 participants in each group). The incidence of seroconversion was 98% (95% confidence interval [CI], 94 to 100) with the standard dose. The difference in the incidence of seroconversion between the 1000-IU dose and the standard dose was 0.01 percentage points (95% CI, -5.0 to 5.1) in the intention-to-treat population and -1.9 percentage points (95% CI, -7.0 to 3.2) in the per-protocol population; the corresponding differences between the 500-IU dose and the standard dose were 0.01 percentage points (95% CI, -5.0 to 5.1) and -1.8 percentage points (95% CI, -6.7 to 3.2), and those between the 250-IU dose and the standard dose were -4.4 percentage points (95% CI, -9.4 to 0.7) and -6.7 percentage points (95% CI, -11.7 to 1.6). A total of 111 vaccine-related adverse events were reported: 103 were mild in severity, 7 were moderate, and 1 was severe. The incidence of adverse events was similar in the four groups.</p> <p>CONCLUSIONS: A yellow fever vaccination dose as low as 500 IU was noninferior to the standard dose of 13,803 IU for producing seroconversion within 28 days. (Funded by the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership and the Wellcome Trust; NIFTY ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT04059471.).</p>

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EEA	Circularity of the EU textiles value chain in numbers	26/03/2025	A vision of the EU in its strategy on sustainable and circular textiles is to move away from fast fashion towards better and longer-lasting products, with more reuse and recycling. This briefing helps fill data and knowledge gaps on the circularity of the textiles value chain to support policies targeted towards reducing the environmental and climate impacts of textiles.
EPA	Research 482: Mitigating Agricultural Impacts on Water Quality through Research and Knowledge Exchange	28/03/2025	This research report explores improving water quality affected by agricultural practices using a multi-disciplinary approach. It incorporated systems analysis of actors and incentives, spatial analysis on the effects of rural activity, analysis of factors impacting measure adoptions, and socio-economic and behavioural psychology studies to identify drivers of pro-environmental activity. Key findings highlight the necessity of localised solutions, the importance of farm advisors and local farming 'champions', collaboration among stakeholders, and providing knowledge and resources to farmers. It also finds that trust between advisors and farmers, upskilling advisors, and understanding the direct and indirect barriers to farm-level behaviour change are seen as crucial for fostering sustainable agricultural practices. The researchers highlights the importance of incentives and behavioural interventions to promote pro-environmental practices.
EPA	Climate Change in the Irish Mind Insight Report Wave 2 No. 1: Life Stages	22/03/2025	Climate Change in the Irish Mind Insight Report Wave 2 No. 1 Life Stage concentrates on how life stage relates to the pattern of responses to Climate Change in the Irish Mind climate change beliefs and risk perceptions questions.
WOAH	A unified call for One Health: Driving implementation, science, policy and investment for global impact	27/03/2025	As global leaders in human, animal, plant and ecosystem health, the Quadripartite collaboration comprising – the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) – reaffirms its unwavering commitment to advancing the One Health approach. This integrated approach is essential to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals, plants, and ecosystems and to address health risks at the human-animal-environment interface. Meeting at WOAH headquarters in Paris for the Third Quadripartite Executive Annual Meeting, we call for urgent, strategic, and sustained support and investments to scale up One Health implementation worldwide.
ProMED	Latest Posts on ProMED-Mail	28/03/2025	Click through to read latest posts re infectious diseases globally.