

Weekly Evidence Surveillance 27/02/2026

Source	Item	Pub Date	Details	Public Health Theme
ECDC	Establishment of EU Reference Laboratories for public health in Europe	23/02/2026	This report describes the legal background and the operational laboratory support context in which the implementation of the European Reference laboratories (from here on 'EURLs') for public health take place. It also describes the ECDC recommended general setup of EURLs and integration into ECDC disease networks as well as the process for the implementation of EURLs for public health in the European Union (EU).	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
ECDC	Rapid ECDC advice on the designation of future European Reference Laboratories for public health	23/02/2026	This document is an update of the rapid scientific advice published in June 2025. It contains recommendations on the EURL(s) for public health to be implemented under the 2026 EU4Health Work Programme. Moreover, in this version, the sections on recommendations for future years and a list of diseases/health issues under consideration have been merged into one section. It also contains recommendations for changes to the steps of the general EURL implementation process.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
WHO	Safety evaluation of certain food additives: prepared by the one-hundredth meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)	25/02/2026	The Committee evaluated the safety of the food additives adipates, ascorbyl palmitate, carob bean gum, dioctyl sodium sulfosuccinate, gardenia (genipin) blue, glycolipids, rosemary extract, thaumatin II and 1 processing aids (enzymes) and revised the specifications for seven flavouring agents.	Cross-Cutting / Other Public Health Topics

UKHSA	Zoonotic and acute respiratory section: request form - GOV.UK	27/02/2026	Added version 9. Form (R1) for identification of legionella, mycoplasma, ureaplasma and respiratory chlamydia.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
UKHSA	Shingles immunisation programme [Shingrix®]: evaluation reports - GOV.UK	26/02/2026	Added the HPR 19(10) report, the third quarterly report for the academic year 2024/25, and the associated data file. 42.1% of those turning age 66, who had been eligible since their 65th birthday, had received their first Shingrix dose by October 2025. Among those turning age 71 who have been eligible since turning 70, vaccine uptake coverage stands at 53.5%.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
UKHSA	National flu immunisation programme plan 2026 to 2027 - GOV.UK	26/02/2026	The annual flu letter describes the national flu immunisation programme and outlines which groups are eligible for flu vaccination.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
UKHSA	Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) maternal vaccination coverage in England - GOV.UK	26/02/2026	Official statistics data and reporting on vaccine uptake for the RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) vaccination programme for pregnant women.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
UKHSA	Effectiveness of IPC measures for high prevalence of C. difficile - GOV.UK	25/02/2026	This rapid systematic review (search up to 1 September 2025) aimed to identify and summarise evidence relating to infection prevention and control (IPC) measures, in addition to standard IPC practice, to prevent spread of Clostridioides difficile (C. difficile) in the context of high prevalence in health and social care settings.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
UKHSA	Effectiveness of isolation strategies for people with C. difficile - GOV.UK	25/02/2026	This rapid systematic review (search up to 15 May 2025) identified and summarised evidence relating to the effectiveness of isolation strategies	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews

			in health and social care settings to prevent transmission of Clostridioides difficile (C. difficile).	
UKHSA	UKHSA FluSurvey surveillance system - GOV.UK	25/02/2026	Updated with 2025 to 2026 swabbing study.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
UKHSA	Hepatitis B: the green book, chapter 18 - GOV.UK	24/02/2026	Updates to eligibility for targeted vaccination of people at higher risk of exposure.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
UKHSA	Travel to visit friends and relatives: migrant health guide - GOV.UK	23/02/2026	Removed link to COVID-19. Updates to wording and links.	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
UKHSA	Poliomyelitis and post-polio syndrome: migrant health guide - GOV.UK	23/02/2026	Updated links, rewrite of content for clarity.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
PHA-NI	Measles Mumps Rubella (MMR) vaccination leaflet HSC Public Health Agency	23/02/2026	This leaflet is for children and adults born before January 2020 who are still eligible for the MMR vaccine. Those children born after can receive the MMRV for measles, mumps, rubella and varicella (chickenpox) as part of the routine vaccination schedule.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
NICE	Nirmatrelvir plus ritonavir and tocilizumab for treating COVID-19 Guidance NICE	26/02/2026	Last reviewed: 26 February 2026. In section 1, NICE removed the recommendation on sotrovimab because the company has discontinued manufacturing, supply, distribution and marketing of sotrovimab in the UK.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance
NICE	Molnupiravir for treating COVID-19 Guidance NICE	26/02/2026	Last reviewed: 26 February 2026. In section 1, NICE removed the recommendation on sotrovimab because the company has discontinued manufacturing, supply, distribution and marketing of sotrovimab in the UK.	Vaccination Preventable Disease Guidance

HIQA	Protocol for the Health Technology Assessment of the introduction of population-based screening for familial hypercholesterolaemia in children HIQA	24/02/2026	Following a request from the National Screening Advisory Committee (NSAC), HIQA has commenced work on a health technology assessment (HTA) of the introduction of a national screening programme for familial hypercholesterolaemia (FH) in children in Ireland. The protocol outlines the evidence synthesis approach that will be used by HIQA's evaluation team to complete this assessment	Public Health Systems & Tools/Policies/Reviews
PHS	Group A Streptococcus (GAS) quarterly surveillance report October to December 2025 - Group A Streptococcus (GAS) quarterly surveillance report - Publications - Public Health Scotland	24/02/2026	There were 238 iGAS cases reported which was a 27.7% decrease when compared with quarters 1 to 4 of 2024 when 329 cases were reported. The largest proportion of cases were in adults aged 65 years and older (36.6%, 87/238) followed by cases aged 45-64 years (30.7%, 73/238) and 15-44 years (26.5%, 63/238). This age distribution is comparable to those of quarters 1 to 4 of 2024.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
IDSA	IDSA/PIDS 2026 Guidelines for the Management of Community-Acquired Pneumonia (CAP) in Infants and Children Older Than 3 Months of Age	24/02/2026	As of February 24, 2026, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, in collaboration with the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, has released updated recommendations for the management of community-acquired pneumonia in infants and children older than 3 months of age, replacing the previous guidelines last updated in 2011. The current guidelines are available on the IDSA website and will be published in Clinical Infectious Diseases at a later date.	Emerging Infectious Diseases
WOAH	WOAH launches Ambassadors' Dialogue Series to	24/02/2026	The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) launched its new Ambassadors' Dialogue Series, bringing together diplomats to	Environment & Health

	strengthen political engagement on animal health - WOAH - World Organisation for Animal Health		place animal health firmly on the global political agenda and to promote investment in prevention as a strategic priority.	
IAEA	IAEA-Coordinated Research Finds Variation in Radiation Doses from Cardiac Imaging, Highlights Areas to Enhance Patient Safety IAEA	26/02/2026	Differences in the amount of radiation patients receive from diagnostic tests for coronary artery disease (CAD) have been revealed in a major international study coordinated by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Columbia University in the United States.	Environment & Health

<p>ProMED</p>	<p>Latest alerts</p>	<p>Fri Feb 27 2026 AVIAN INFLUENZA - ARGENTINA: (BUENOS AIRES) HPAI, COMMERCIAL POULTRY, SECOND OUTBREAK Fri Feb 27 2026 SALMONELLOSIS, SEROTYPE TEHELKEBIR - USA: CDC, RAW OYSTERS, SECOND ORGANISM SALMONELLA PARATYPHI B VARIANT Fri Feb 27 2026 MUMPS - USA: (MARYLAND, CALIFORNIA) Fri Feb 27 2026 MEASLES - CANADA (07): (ONTARIO, MANITOBA) EXPOSURES Fri Feb 27 2026 SYPHILIS - MEXICO: (COAHUILA) INCREASE Thu Feb 26 2026 MEASLES - USA (48): (FLORIDA, NEW MEXICO, OHIO, CALIFORNIA, NORTH DAKOTA) Thu Feb 26 2026 SALMONELLOSIS, SEROTYPE AGBENI - USA: (ILLINOIS) BEER COOLER ICE, AI INPUT, 2024 Thu Feb 26 2026 MEASLES - PHILIPPINES: (METROPOLITAN MANILA) QUEZON CITY Thu Feb 26 2026 SALMONELLOSIS, SEROTYPE NEWPORT - USA (03): FDA, UNKNOWN SOURCE Thu Feb 26 2026 MEASLES - UK (02): (ENGLAND) LONDON Thu Feb 26 2026 BLACK SPOT, CITRUS - BRAZIL: STROBILURINS PARTIAL RESISTANCE Thu Feb 26 2026 SHIGELLOSIS - USA (02): (NEW YORK) SHIGELLA SONNEI Thu Feb 26 2026 AVIAN INFLUENZA - USA (06): (CALIFORNIA) HPAI H5N1, ELEPHANT SEAL Thu Feb 26 2026 LEPTOSPIROSIS - MAURITIUS: FATALITIES Thu Feb 26 2026 HANTAVIRUS - CHILE (09): (BIO BIO) FATALITY, NATIONAL UPDATE Thu Feb 26 2026 PERTUSSIS - USA (06): (TEXAS, NEVADA) INCREASED CASES, ALERT Wed Feb 25 2026 AVIAN INFLUENZA - USA (05): (PENNSYLVANIA) POULTRY Wed Feb 25 2026 MEASLES - ISRAEL (07): FLIGHT FROM ETHIOPIA TO TEL AVIV Wed Feb 25 2026 STREPTOCOCCUS SUIS - THAILAND: INCREASED CASES, FATALITIES Wed Feb 25 2026 MEASLES - JAPAN: INCREASE IN CASES Wed Feb 25 2026 HEPATITIS A - BRAZIL (02): (MINAS GERAIS) OUTBREAK Wed Feb 25 2026 LEGIONELLOSIS - SWITZERLAND: PUBLIC SHOWERS Wed Feb 25 2026 GASTROENTERITIS - RUSSIA (02): (KARACHAY-CHERKESS) SKI RESORT, POSSIBLE</p>	<p>Emerging Infectious Diseases</p>
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	<p>ROTAVIRUS Wed Feb 25 2026 FOODBORNE ILLNESS - UKRAINE (02): (LVIV) CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, REQUEST FOR INFORMATION Tue Feb 24 2026 MEASLES - NEW ZEALAND: (AUCKLAND) ex SINGAPORE, FLIGHT, AIRPORT, HOSPITAL EXPOSURES Tue Feb 24 2026 FOODBORNE ILLNESS - INDIA (09): (KERALA) FISH ROE, TETRODOTOXIN SUSPECTED, FATAL Tue Feb 24 2026 MALARIA - BELIZE: (TOLEDO) ex GUATEMALA Tue Feb 24 2026 MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE - JAPAN: (TOKYO) SEROGROUP B, NON-VACCINATED AUSTRALIAN TOURIST Tue Feb 24 2026 MURINE TYPHUS - USA: (CALIFORNIA) INCREASE Tue Feb 24 2026 AVIAN INFLUENZA - URUGUAY: WILD BIRDS, HPAI H5N1 Tue Feb 24 2026 LEPTOSPIROSIS - COLOMBIA: (CORDOBA) HORSE Tue Feb 24 2026 MALARIA - UKRAINE: FALCIPARUM, ex TANZANIA Tue Feb 24 2026 EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA - USA (03): (COLORADO) HORSE Mon Feb 23 2026 INFLUENZA D - USA: POTENTIAL ZONOTIC RISK Mon Feb 23 2026 FOODBORNE ILLNESS - UZBEKISTAN: (FERGANA) MUTLIPL E KINDERGARTENS, REQUEST FOR INFORMATION Mon Feb 23 2026 UNDIAGNOSED DISEASE, POTATO AND TOMATO - SENEGAL: (THIES) Mon Feb 23 2026 CHIKUNGUNYA - BOLIVIA: (LA PAZ) Mon Feb 23 2026 LEPTOSPIROSIS - FIJI: FOREST POOL SWIMMING, FATALITY Mon Feb 23 2026 MEASLES - ISRAEL (06): 16TH PEDIATRIC FATALITY Mon Feb 23 2026 FOODBORNE ILLNESS - VIET NAM (02): (THANH HOA) ALLIGATOR GAR ROE, ICHTHYOTOXIN Mon Feb 23 2026 MEASLES - USA (47): (UTAH, DELAWARE, NORTH DAKOTA, MINNESOTA) Mon Feb 23 2026 MEASLES - SUDAN: (CENTRAL DARFUR) SHARP INCREASE OF SUSPECTED CASES Mon Feb 23 2026 MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE - FRANCE: (BRITTANY) ITALIAN NAVY CREW MEMBER, QUARANTINED VESSEL</p>	
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		<p>Sun Feb 22 2026 MEASLES - USA (46): (FLORIDA) Sun Feb 22 2026 HANTAVIRUS - CHILE (08): (NUBLE) Sun Feb 22 2026 LEGIONELLOSIS - FRANCE: IMMUNOSUPPRESSED, WATER FLOSSER SOURCE Sun Feb 22 2026 BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS - USA: (MICHIGAN) DAIRY CATTLE Sat Feb 21 2026 MALARIA - LIBYA: (BENGHAZI) AUTOCHTHONOUS CASES, PLASMODIUM FALCIPARUM, SUSPECTED AIRPORT MALARIA, 2024 Sat Feb 21 2026 MEASLES - USA (45): (SOUTH CAROLINA) MORE CASES, VACCINATION Sat Feb 21 2026 PARALYTIC SHELLFISH POISONING - CHINA: (GUANGDONG) CLAMS Sat Feb 21 2026 INFANT BOTULISM - ARGENTINA (02): INCREASING INCIDENCE Sat Feb 21 2026 TUBERCULOSIS - USA (07): (CALIFORNIA) SAN FRANCISCO, HIGH SCHOOL, MAJOR INCREASE IN LATENT CASES Sat Feb 21 2026 HANTAVIRUS - BRAZIL (MINAS GERAIS) FATAL Sat Feb 21 2026 NEW WORLD SCREWWORM - MEXICO (07): (MEXICO, GUERRERO, MICHOACÁN) LIVESTOCK, DOG Fri Feb 20 2026 AVIAN INFLUENZA, HUMAN - CHINA: AVIAN INFLUENZA REPORT - WEEK 6, 2026</p>	
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