



Health Protection Agency and Nottingham University Division of Primary Care Collaborative National Surveillance System



Weekly Bulletin No. 276 Data for week commencing 22nd February 2010 (Week 8 of 2010)

Key messages this week: Rates of vomiting, diarrhoea and gastroenteritis are increasing and rates are higher than those seen this time last year; this is consistent with the continuing high levels of national norovirus activity and the usual seasonal increase in rotavirus. Rates of vomiting, gastroenteritis and diarrhoea in all ages are currently at the highest levels recorded since 2006. Vomiting rates are currently highest in London and North West SHAs. Weekly rates of ILI remained stable during week 8, and remain equivalent to estimated 'baseline seasonal activity' during winter months. The highest rates are in London, North West and West Midlands. All SHAs now have ILI rates equivalent to those expected during 'baseline seasonal activity' during winter months. The <1 and 1-4 years age groups have the highest consultation rates for ILI. All other respiratory indicators are within seasonally expected levels.

QSurveillance® – 3024 practices reported from England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland with a total practice population of 19.6 million.

	Overall trend *	Rate week 8 **	Rate week 7 **	Above/below week 8 of 2009	Highest rates	Comment
Influenza-like illness	→	8.9	8.8	Similar	London, North West, West Midlands	Level equivalent to 'baseline seasonal activity'. Highest rates in the <1 and 1-4 years age groups.
Influenza-like illness with antivirals	→	0.2	0.3	Similar		57 cases treated with antivirals.
Pneumonia	→	1.1	1.1	Similar	Northern Ireland	Highest rates in 75+ years age group.
URTI	→	234.2	223.7	Similar	East of England, London, West Midlands, North West	
LRTI	→	84.4	83.4	Above	North West, Northern Ireland, North East, East of England, Yorks & Humber, East Midlands	Rates highest in the under 1 year age group.
Vomiting	↑	31.5	29	Above	London, North West	See key messages.
Gastroenteritis	↑	81.2	73.5	Above	London, North West	See key messages.
Diarrhoea (all ages)	↑	43.8	39.2	Above	South West, London	Nationally, 17.6% treated with oral rehydration therapy. See key messages.
Diarrhoea in children under 5	↑	232.3	209.3	Above	North West	Nationally, 29.8% were treated with oral rehydration therapy. See key messages.
Severe asthma	↓	6.6	6.7	Similar	Wales, North East, North West, East Midlands	
Wheeze	→	25.7	24	Above	Yorks & Humber, West Midlands, North West, North East, South West	Highest rates in over 75+ years age group.
Allergic rhinitis	→	6.3	6.3	Similar	London	
Conjunctivitis	→	43.2	41.8	Similar	East of England, West Midlands, East Midlands	
Cellulitis	→	13	13.1	Below	South West, North West	Nationally, 86.4% were prescribed antibiotics.
Impetigo	→	8	7.5	Similar	Wales, North East, Yorks & Humber, South West, East of England	Nationally, 54.3% were treated with fusidic acid.
Chicken pox	↑	9	7.5	Above	London	
Herpes zoster	→	6.5	6.5	Similar	South West, East of England	
Pharyngitis or scarlet fever	→	41.3	36.9	Similar	East of England, Yorks & Humber, London	Nationally, 58.3% were prescribed antibiotics.
Mumps	→	0.4	0.5	Similar	Yorks & Humber, North East	97 cases (20 in Yorks & Humber, 13 in North East)
Measles	→	<0.1	<0.1	Below		5 cases
Rubella	→	<0.1	<0.1	Similar		4 cases
Pertussis	→	<0.1	<0.1	Similar		3 cases

* Overall trend is the trend observed over the preceding weeks

** Rate per 100,000

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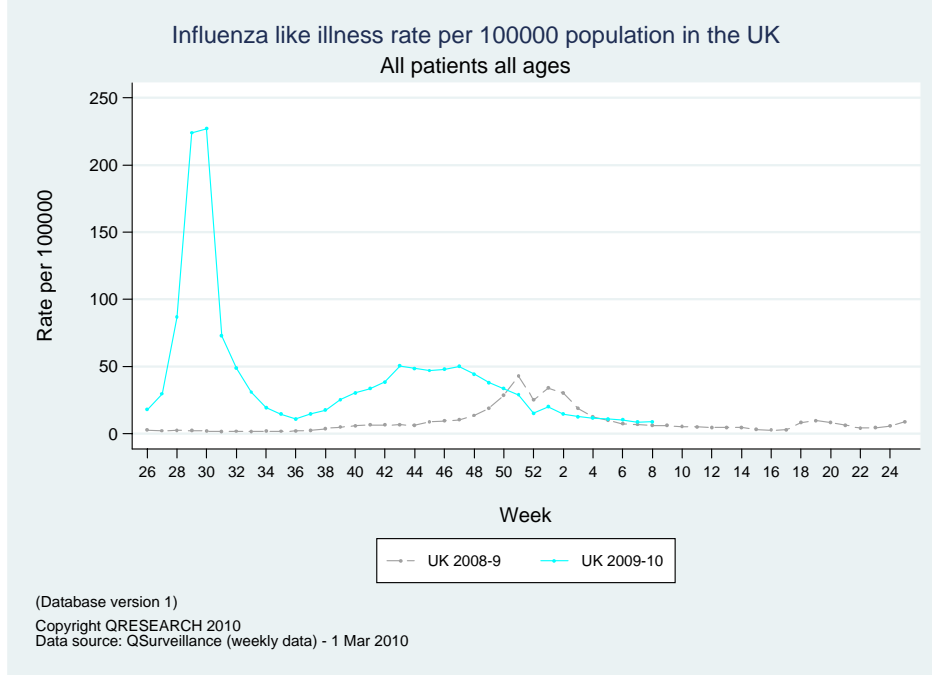
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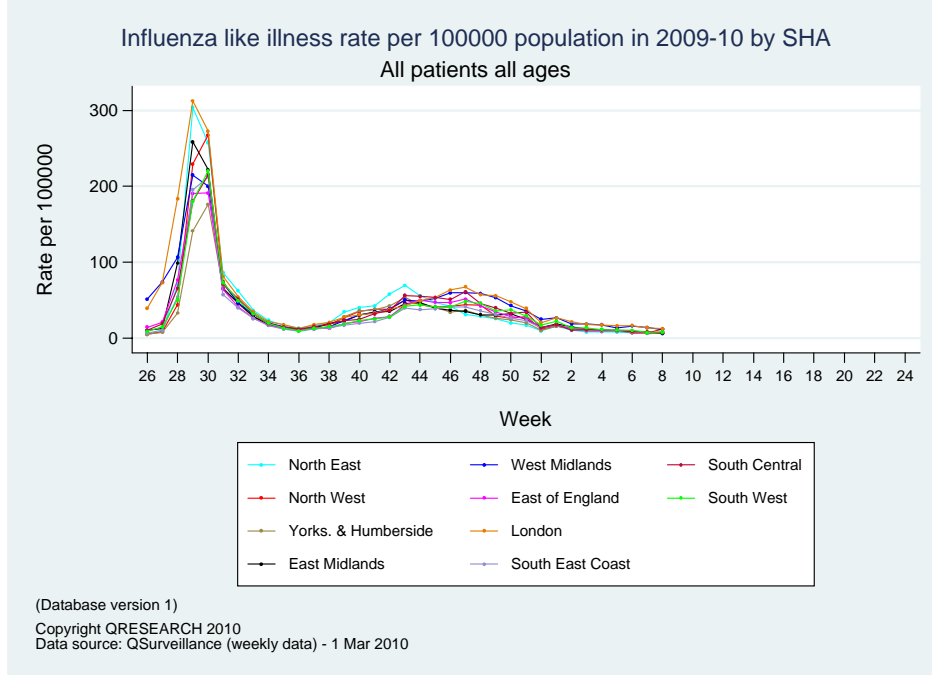
Key Indicators: National rates for week commencing 22nd February 2010 – Week 8 of 2010.

Please Note: data for week 53/09 are not included in these graphs.

Graph 1: Influenza-like illness – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9 – includes patients recorded as having 'suspected swine flu', 'swine flu', influenza-like symptoms, influenza or influenza with other respiratory symptoms/condition e.g. Influenza with pneumonia.



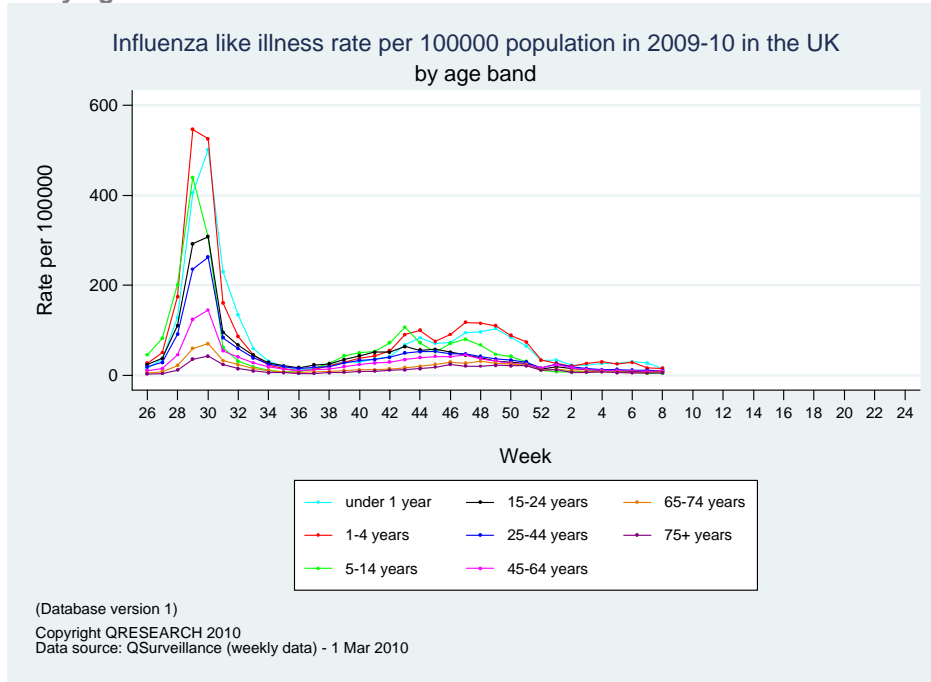
Graph 2: Influenza-like illness – rate per 100,000 practice population, 2009-10 by SHA.



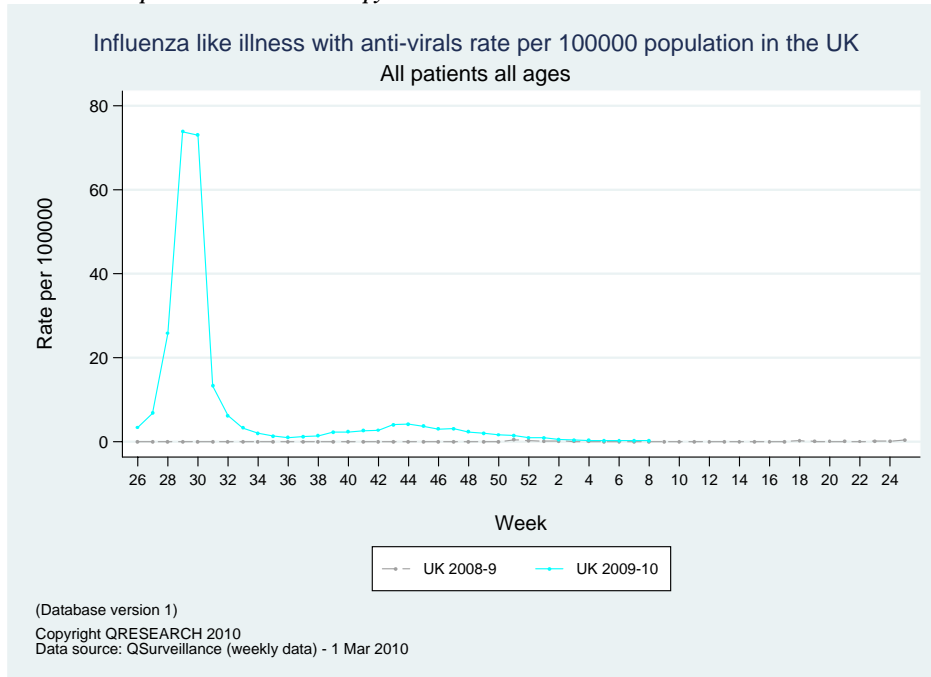
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Key Indicators: National rates for week commencing 22nd February 2010 – Week 8 of 2010.

Graph 3: Influenza-like illness illness – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 by age band.



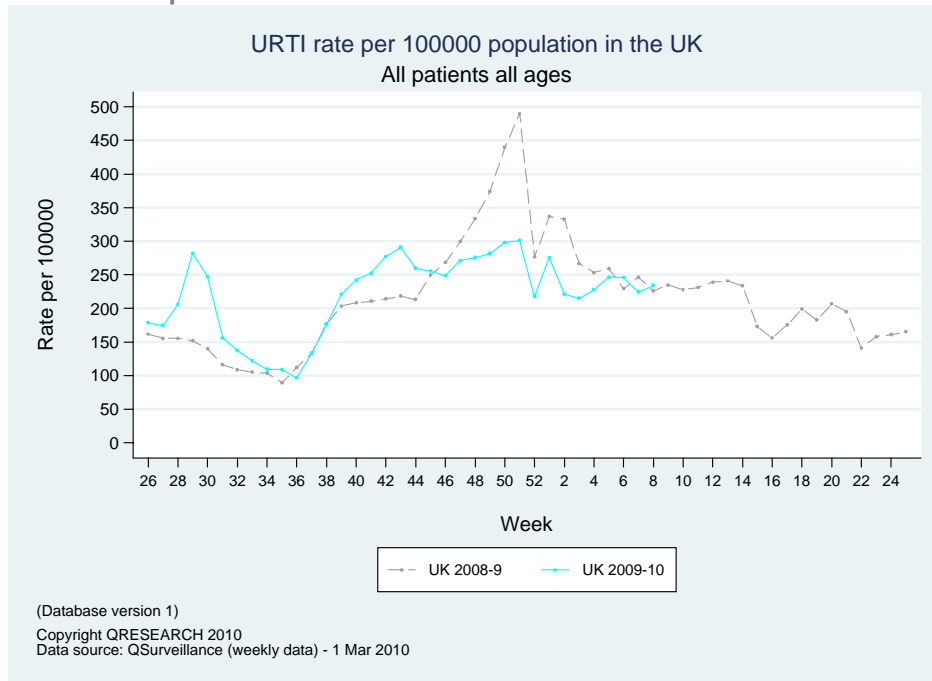
Graph 4: Influenza-like illness with antivirals– rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9 - includes patients recorded with influenza-like illness who have also been prescribed antiviral therapy.



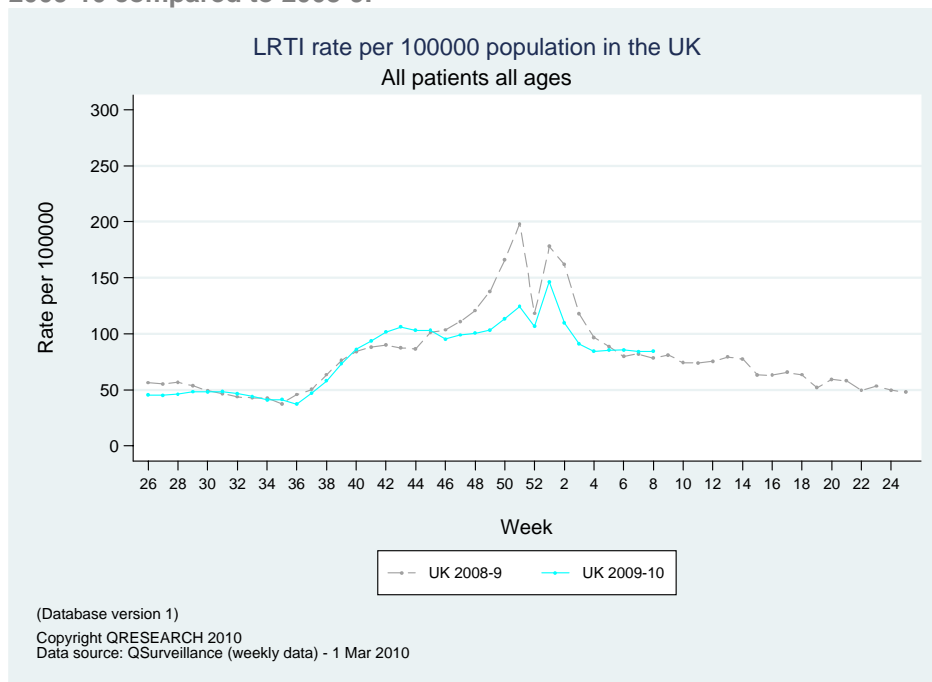
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Key Indicators: National rates for week commencing 22nd February 2010 – Week 8 of 2010.

Graph 5: Upper respiratory tract infection– rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9.

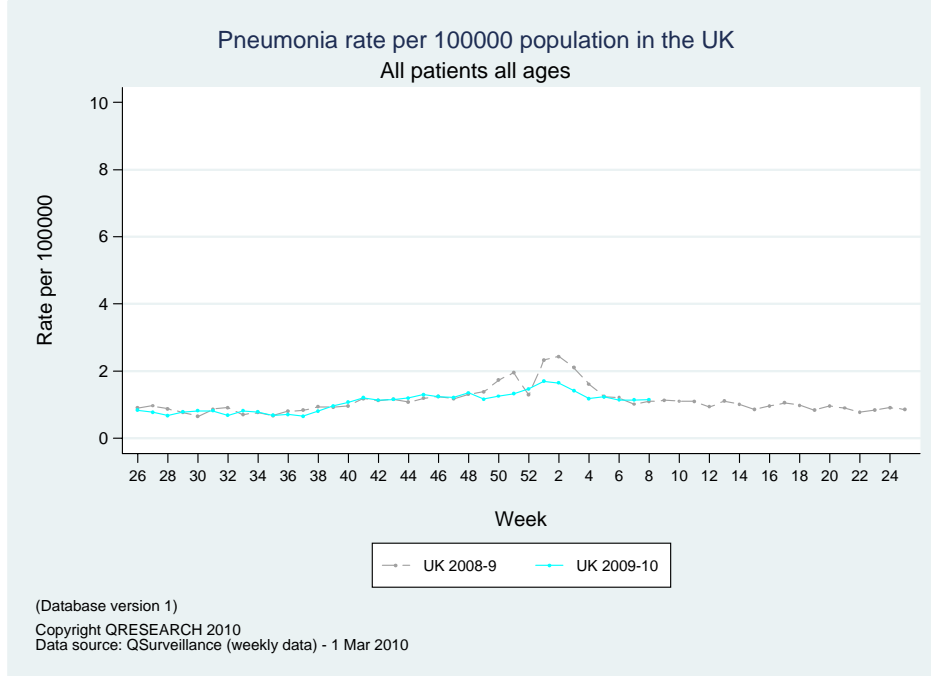


Graph 6: Lower respiratory tract infection– rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9.

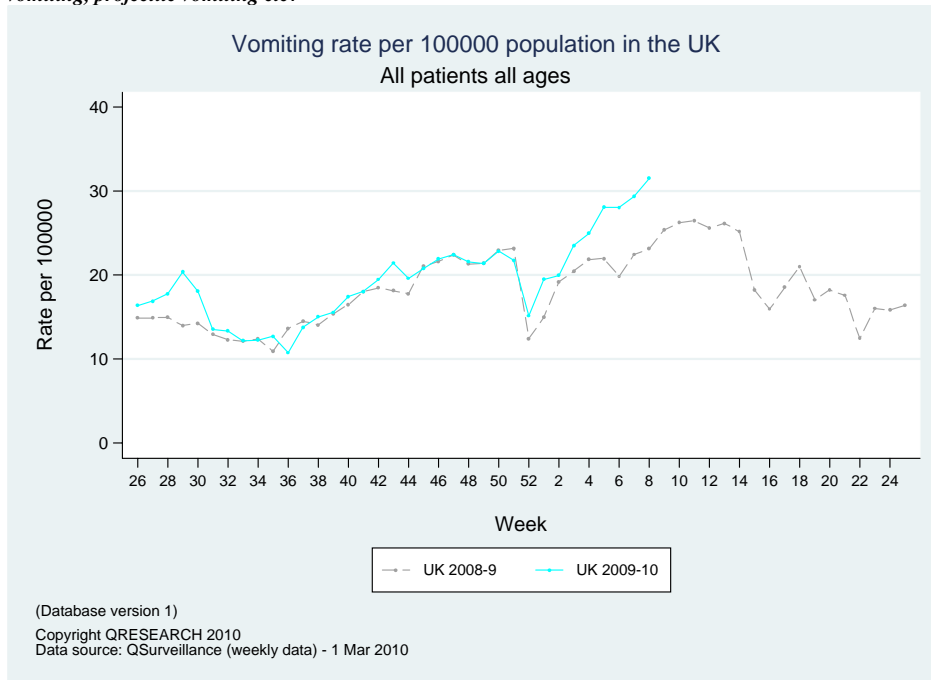


Key Indicators: National rates for week commencing 22nd February 2010 – Week 8 of 2010.

Graph 7: Pneumonia – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9.

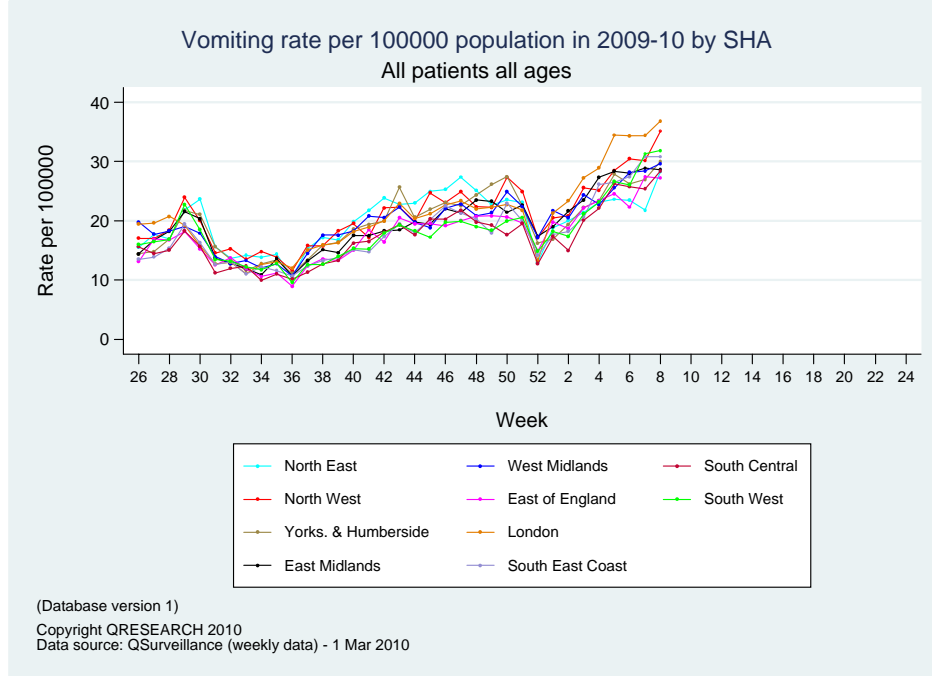


Graph 8: Vomiting – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9 – includes patients recorded as having e.g. Vomiting, nausea and vomiting, vomiting symptoms, diarrhoea and vomiting, projectile vomiting etc.

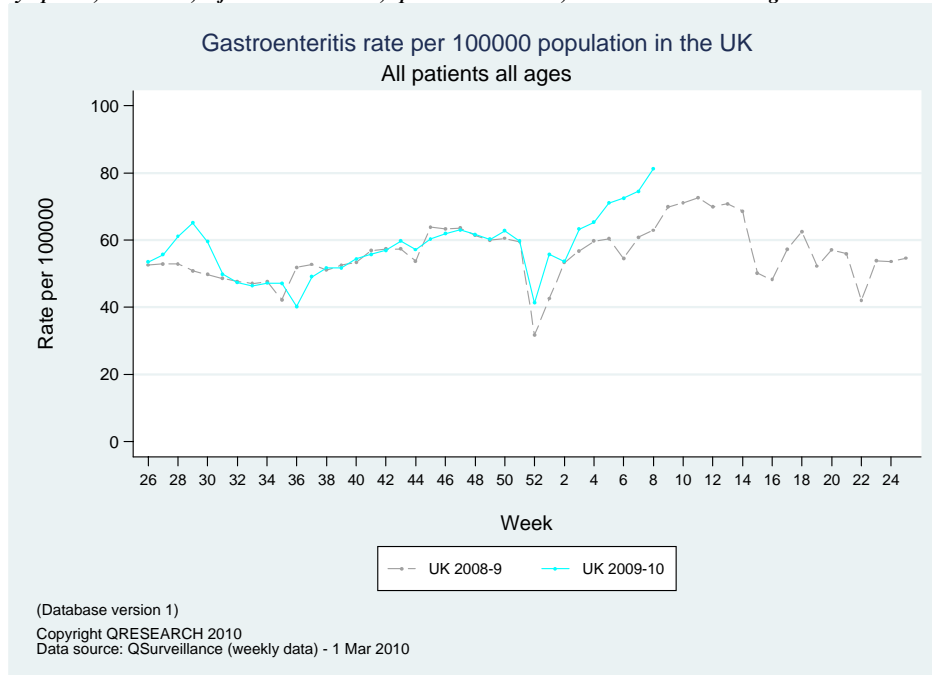


Key Indicators: National rates for week commencing 22nd February 2010 – Week 8 of 2010.

Graph 9: Vomiting – rate per 100,000 practice population, 2009-10 by SHA.



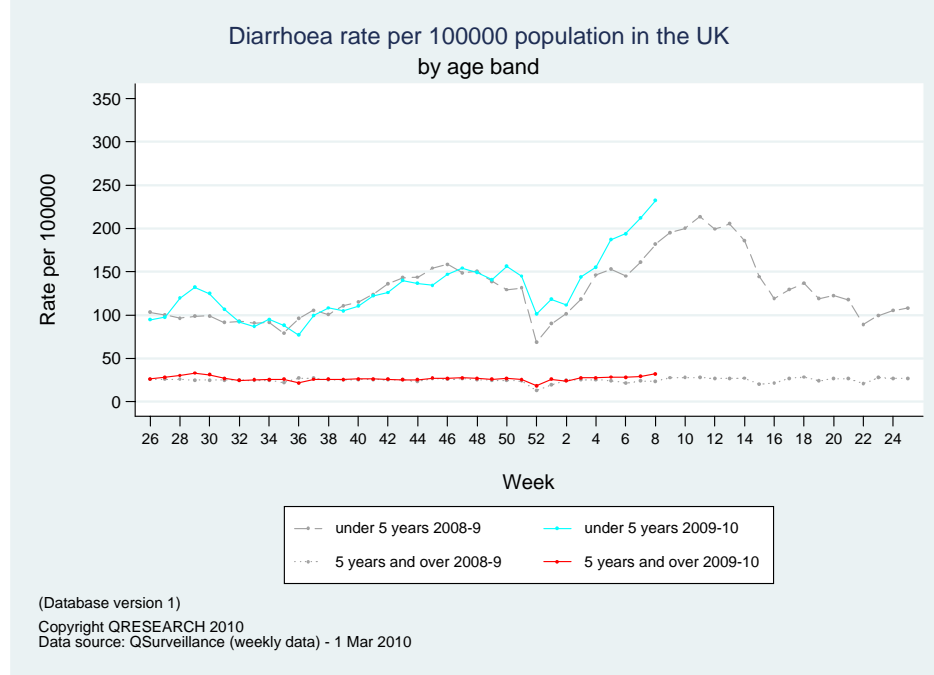
Graph 10: Gastroenteritis – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9 – includes patients recorded as having e.g. vomiting, vomiting symptoms, vomiting-infective, diarrhoea symptoms, diarrhoea, infectious diarrhoea, epidemic diarrhoea, diarrhoea and vomiting etc.



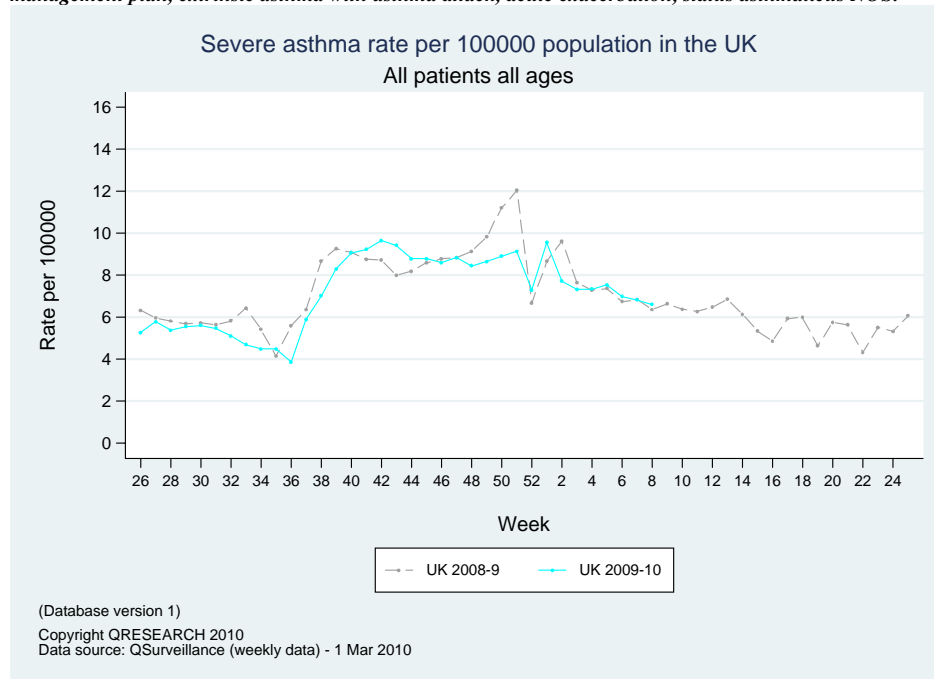
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Graph 11: Diarrhoea in children aged under 5 and rate for all aged 5 and over – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9 – includes patients recorded as having e.g. diarrhoea symptoms, diarrhoea, infectious diarrhoea, epidemic diarrhoea, diarrhoea and vomiting etc.



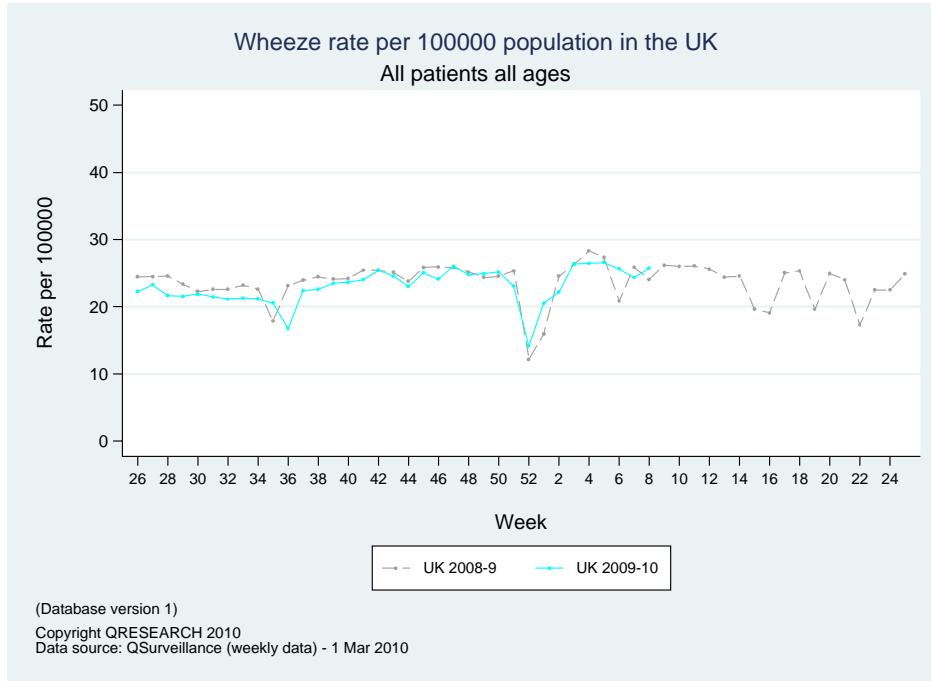
Graph 12: Severe asthma – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9 – includes patients recorded as having e.g. severe asthma attack, asthma attack, a step up change in asthma management plan, extrinsic asthma with asthma attack, acute exacerbation, status asthmaticus NOS.



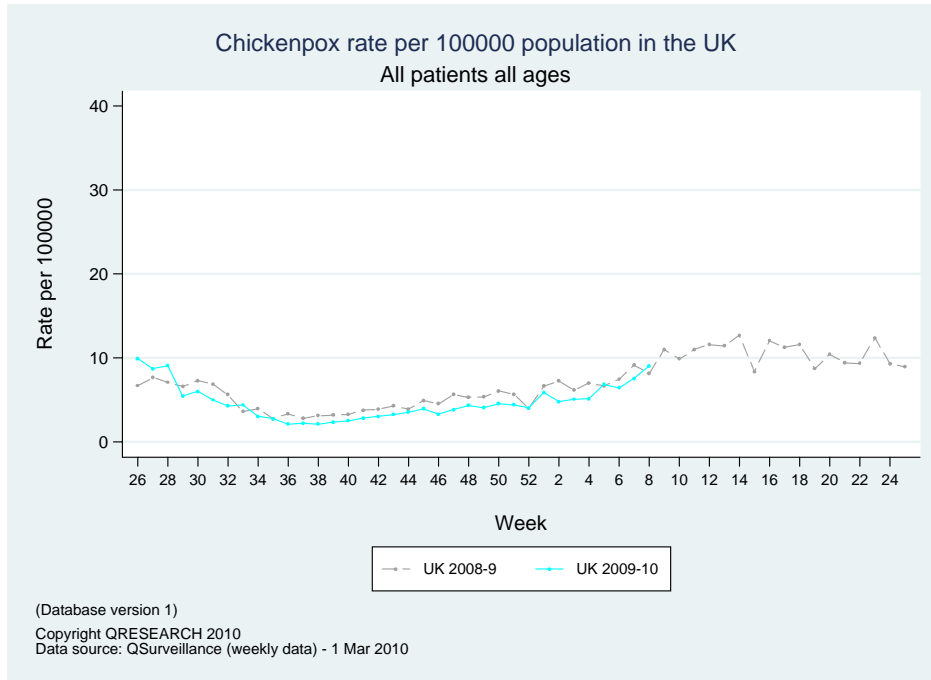
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Key Indicators: National rates for week commencing 22nd February 2010 – Week 8 of 2010.

Graph 13: Wheeze – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9.



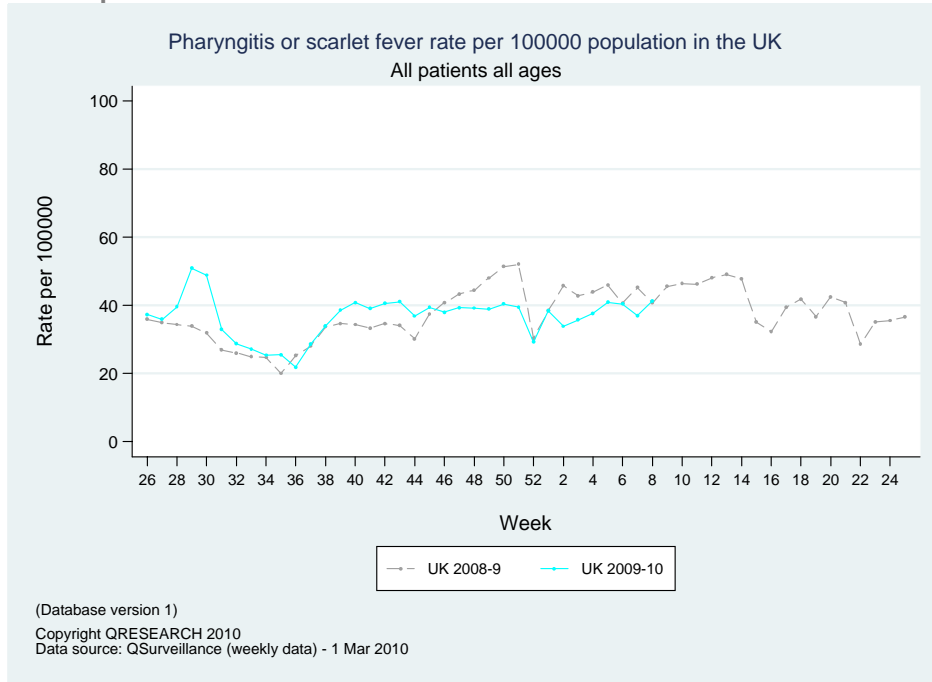
Graph 14: Chicken pox – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9.



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Key Indicators: National rates for week commencing 22nd February 2010 – Week 8 of 2010.

Graph 15: Pharyngitis or scarlet fever – rate per 100,000 practice population, UK, 2009-10 compared to 2008-9.



Key Indicators: Rates by Country and Strategic Health Authority (SHA) for week commencing 22nd February 2010 – Week 8 of 2010.

Notes to accompany all tables:

- Only practices with data for the entire week have been included in the analysis for this current week and SHAs or countries where there are less than 3 practices reporting are excluded from the tables to ensure confidentiality of participating practices. The SHAs /countries not included in this week's tables are:

Scotland and unclassified were excluded.
- **Cells highlighted in yellow are considered to be a significantly high result.** Coded yellow if both the upper and lower confidence limits are above 100. The Standardised Incidence Ratio (SIR) is calculated using the UK as the standard population.
- PCT level data are included in Appendix A.

Table 1: Influenza-like illness & Influenza-like illness with anti-virals– rates per 100,000 practice population – Week 8 of 2010

Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance							
Country, Strategic Health Authority	Denominator pop	Table 1: Influenza-like illness			Table 1: Influenza-like illness with anti-virals		
		Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)	Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)
North East	1099445	58	5.2	59.0 (45.1 - 76.7)	<5	0.1	62.4 (9.7 - 244.6)
North West	2192163	249	11.3	127.1 (112.0 - 144.1)	6	0.2	93.9 (37.0 - 212.5)
Yorkshire & Humberside	1478999	89	6	67.3 (54.3 - 83.2)	<5	0.2	69.6 (16.8 - 216.7)
East Midlands	1635016	101	6.1	69.1 (56.5 - 84.3)	<5	0	21.0 (0.9 - 131.2)
West Midlands	1934749	214	11	123.8 (107.9 - 141.7)	9	0.4	159.6 (76.4 - 311.6)
East of England	1731851	136	7.8	87.9 (73.9 - 104.2)	5	0.2	99.1 (35.1 - 241.7)
London	4104509	497	12.1	135.5 (123.9 - 148.0)	8	0.1	66.9 (30.4 - 135.9)
South East Coast	1402439	105	7.4	83.8 (68.8 - 101.7)	<5	0.2	97.9 (29.9 - 264.0)
South Central	1425688	95	6.6	74.6 (60.6 - 91.5)	8	0.5	192.6 (87.6 - 391.2)
South West	1964222	149	7.5	84.9 (72.0 - 99.9)	8	0.4	139.8 (63.6 - 284.0)
Wales	255061	16	6.2	70.2 (41.1 - 116.0)	0	0	0.0 (0.0 - 0.0)
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland	336538	39	11.5	129.7 (93.1 - 178.6)	<5	0.8	305.9 (73.9 - 952.4)
All England	18969081	1693	8.9	99.9 (95.2 - 104.8)	54	0.2	97.7 (73.9 - 128.2)
UK	19560680	1748	8.9	100	57	0.2	100
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Table 2: Lower & Upper Respiratory Tract Infections – rates per 100,000 practice population – Week 8 of 2010

Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance							
Country, Strategic Health Authority	Denominator pop	Table 2: Lower Respiratory Tract Infection			Table 2: Upper Respiratory Tract Infection		
		Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)	Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)
North East	1099445	1105	100.5	119.0 (112.1 - 126.3)	2206	200.6	85.7 (82.1 - 89.3)
North West	2192163	2364	107.8	127.7 (122.6 - 133.0)	5303	241.9	103.3 (100.5 - 106.1)
Yorkshire & Humberside	1478999	1383	93.5	110.7 (105.0 - 116.8)	3387	229	97.8 (94.5 - 101.1)
East Midlands	1635016	1517	92.7	109.9 (104.4 - 115.6)	3930	240.3	102.6 (99.4 - 105.9)
West Midlands	1934749	1689	87.2	103.4 (98.5 - 108.5)	4688	242.3	103.4 (100.5 - 106.5)
East of England	1731851	1732	100	118.4 (112.9 - 124.2)	4384	253.1	108.1 (104.9 - 111.3)
London	4104509	2415	58.8	69.7 (66.9 - 72.5)	10273	250.2	106.9 (104.8 - 108.9)
South East Coast	1402439	1067	76	90.1 (84.8 - 95.7)	3059	218.1	93.1 (89.9 - 96.5)
South Central	1425688	1090	76.4	90.5 (85.3 - 96.1)	3136	219.9	93.9 (90.7 - 97.3)
South West	1964222	1563	79.5	94.2 (89.6 - 99.0)	4075	207.4	88.6 (85.9 - 91.3)
Wales	255061	235	92.1	109.1 (95.7 - 124.2)	614	240.7	102.8 (94.9 - 111.3)
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland	336538	358	106.3	126.0 (113.4 - 139.8)	762	226.4	96.7 (90.0 - 103.8)
All England	18969081	15925	83.9	99.4 (97.9 - 101.0)	44441	234.2	100.0 (99.1 - 101.0)
UK	19560680	16518	84.4	100	45817	234.2	100
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 3: Vomiting and Gastroenteritis – rates per 100,000 practice population – Week 8 of 2010

Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance							
Country, Strategic Health Authority	Denominator pop	Table 3: Vomiting			Table 3: Gastroenteritis		
		Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)	Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)
North East	1099445	311	28.2	89.8 (80.2 - 100.4)	761	69.2	85.2 (79.3 - 91.5)
North West	2192163	770	35.1	111.5 (103.8 - 119.7)	1879	85.7	105.5 (100.8 - 110.4)
Yorkshire & Humberside	1478999	444	30.0	95.3 (86.7 - 104.6)	1112	75.1	92.5 (87.2 - 98.2)
East Midlands	1635016	468	28.6	90.8 (82.9 - 99.5)	1305	79.8	98.2 (93.0 - 103.7)
West Midlands	1934749	573	29.6	94.0 (86.5 - 102.1)	1554	80.3	98.9 (94.0 - 103.9)

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Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance							
Country, Strategic Health Authority	Denominator pop	Table 3: Vomiting			Table 3: Gastroenteritis		
		Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)	Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)
East of England	1731851	471	27.1	86.3 (78.8 - 94.5)	1228	70.9	87.3 (82.5 - 92.3)
London	4104509	1512	36.8	116.9 (111.1 - 123.0)	3855	93.9	115.6 (112.0 - 119.3)
South East Coast	1402439	432	30.8	97.8 (88.8 - 107.5)	1154	82.2	101.3 (95.5 - 107.3)
South Central	1425688	405	28.4	90.2 (81.7 - 99.5)	1066	74.7	92.0 (86.6 - 97.8)
South West	1964222	625	31.8	101.0 (93.3 - 109.3)	1582	80.5	99.1 (94.3 - 104.2)
Wales	255061	78	30.5	97.1 (77.1 - 121.6)	193	75.6	93.1 (80.6 - 107.4)
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland	336538	74	21.9	69.8 (55.1 - 88.0)	204	60.6	74.6 (64.8 - 85.7)
All England	18969081	6011	31.6	100.6 (98.1 - 103.2)	15496	81.6	100.5 (99.0 - 102.1)
UK	19560680	6163	31.5	100	15893	81.2	100
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 4: Diarrhoea (all ages) and proportion treated with oral rehydration therapy – rates per 100,000 practice population – Week 8 of 2010.

Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance					
Country, SHA	Table 4: Diarrhoea (all ages) and proportion treated with oral rehydration therapy				
	Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)	Number Treated	% Treated
North East	411	37.3	85.3 (77.3 - 94.0)	59	14.4%
North West	989	45.1	102.9 (96.6 - 109.6)	193	19.5%
Yorkshire & Humberside	618	41.7	95.3 (88.0 - 103.2)	98	15.9%
East Midlands	683	41.7	95.3 (88.3 - 102.8)	88	12.9%
West Midlands	859	44.3	101.3 (94.7 - 108.3)	180	21.0%
East of England	722	41.6	95.1 (88.3 - 102.4)	93	12.9%
London	1897	46.2	105.4 (100.8 - 110.3)	517	27.3%
South East Coast	658	46.9	107.0 (99.1 - 115.6)	86	13.1%
South Central	572	40.1	91.5 (84.2 - 99.4)	57	10.0%
South West	960	48.8	111.5 (104.6 - 118.8)	94	9.8%
Wales	103	40.3	92.1 (75.5 - 112.1)	15	14.6%
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland	102	30.3	69.1 (56.6 - 84.2)	33	32.4%
All England	8369	44.1	100.7 (98.5 - 102.8)	1465	17.5%
UK	8574	43.8	100	1513	17.6%
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-

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Table 5: Diarrhoea in the under 5's and proportion treated with oral rehydration therapy - rate per 100,000 practice population – Week 8 of 2010.

Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance					
Country, SHA	Table 5: Diarrhoea with Oral Rehydration - children under 5				
	Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)	Number Treated	% Treated
North East	127	214.9	92.5 (77.4 - 110.4)	32	25.2%
North West	343	265.4	114.3 (102.6 - 127.1)	120	35.0%
Yorkshire & Humberside	198	250.3	107.8 (93.4 - 124.1)	49	24.7%
East Midlands	202	219.5	94.5 (82.1 - 108.7)	49	24.3%
West Midlands	270	234.8	101.1 (89.5 - 114.0)	85	31.5%
East of England	198	199.9	86.1 (74.6 - 99.1)	45	22.7%
London	675	243.9	105.0 (97.3 - 113.3)	274	40.6%
South East Coast	192	247.4	106.5 (92.2 - 122.9)	39	20.3%
South Central	169	200.6	86.4 (74.0 - 100.6)	36	21.3%
South West	236	231.2	99.6 (87.4 - 113.3)	45	19.1%
Wales	29	218.4	94.0 (63.8 - 136.4)	7	24.1%
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland	31	140.1	60.3 (41.5 - 86.4)	15	48.4%
All England	2610	234.3	100.9 (97.0 - 104.8)	774	29.7%
UK	2670	232.3	100	796	29.8%
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-

Table 6: Severe Asthma and Wheeze – rates per 100,000 practice population – Week 8 of 2010.

Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance							
Country, Strategic Health Authority	Denominator pop	Table 6: Severe Asthma			Table 6: Wheeze		
		Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)	Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)
North East	1099445	93	8.4	128.1 (103.8 - 157.4)	334	30.3	118.1 (105.9 - 131.6)
North West	2192163	184	8.3	127.1 (109.6 - 147.1)	667	30.4	118.3 (109.5 - 127.7)
Yorkshire & Humberside	1478999	89	6.0	91.1 (73.5 - 112.5)	531	35.9	139.6 (128.0 - 152.0)
East Midlands	1635016	130	7.9	120.4 (100.8 - 143.3)	434	26.5	103.2 (93.8 - 113.4)
West Midlands	1934749	134	6.9	104.9 (88.1 - 124.5)	649	33.5	130.4 (120.6 - 140.9)
East of England	1731851	113	6.5	98.8 (81.7 - 119.1)	387	22.3	86.9 (78.5 - 96.0)
London	4104509	172	4.1	63.4 (54.4 - 73.8)	668	16.2	63.3 (58.6 - 68.3)
South East Coast	1402439	86	6.1	92.8 (74.6 - 115.1)	339	24.1	94.0 (84.3 - 104.6)
South Central	1425688	93	6.5	98.8 (80.0 - 121.4)	312	21.8	85.1 (76.0 - 95.2)

Data for week commencing 00.01hrs Monday 22nd February 2010 from version 1 of the QSurveillance® database. Information from this bulletin may be quoted provided the source of the data and version of the database is included in any publication or presentation. We acknowledge the contribution of EMIS and EMIS practices.

Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance							
Country, Strategic Health Authority	Denominator pop	Table 6: Severe Asthma			Table 6: Wheeze		
		Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)	Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)
South West	1964222	142	7.2	109.5 (92.4 - 129.3)	563	28.6	111.4 (102.5 - 121.1)
Wales	255061	35	13.7	207.8 (146.2 - 291.4)	71	27.8	108.2 (84.9 - 137.1)
Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland	336538	21	6.2	94.5 (59.6 - 146.4)	77	22.8	88.9 (70.5 - 111.6)
All England	18969081	1236	6.5	98.6 (93.3 - 104.3)	4884	25.7	100.1 (97.3 - 102.9)
UK	19560680	1292	6.6	100	5032	25.7	100
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 7: Pneumonia - rate per 100,000 practice population - Week 8 of 2010.

Week commencing 22 February 2010 from QSurveillance				
Country, Strategic Health Authority	Denominator pop	Table 7: Pneumonia		
		Observed number of cases	Rate per 100,000	SIR (95% upper and lower confidence limits)
North East	1099445	15	1.3	118.1 (67.8 - 198.3)
North West	2192163	27	1.2	106.6 (71.2 - 156.8)
Yorkshire & Humberside	1478999	17	1.1	99.5 (59.3 - 161.9)
East Midlands	1635016	16	0.9	84.7 (49.6 - 139.9)
West Midlands	1934749	12	0.6	53.7 (28.7 - 95.8)
East of England	1731851	22	1.2	109.9 (70.1 - 168.6)
London	4104509	30	0.7	63.3 (43.2 - 91.2)
South East Coast	1402439	21	1.4	129.6 (81.7 - 200.8)
South Central	1425688	17	1.1	103.2 (61.5 - 167.9)
South West	1964222	30	1.5	132.2 (90.3 - 190.5)
Wales	255061	0	0.0	0.0 (0.0 - 0.0)
Scotland	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland	336538	19	5.6	488.6 (300.2 - 774.3)
All England	18969081	207	1.0	94.4 (82.2 - 108.4)
UK	19560680	226	1.1	100
Unclassified	-	-	-	-

Your comments on this bulletin and the key indicators are welcomed. Further information on the project or the key indicators presented here can be obtained by contacting either Sally Harcourt or Sue Smith on 0121 352 5553 (email sally.harcourt@hpa.org.uk or sue.smith@hpa.org.uk).