

# National Core Studies

June 2022

This is a monthly update from the [National Core Studies](#) programme with our latest news, key findings and things to look out for.

The COVID-19 National Core Studies (NCS) are a crucial part of the UK's ongoing pandemic response. They are enabling the UK to use health data and research to inform both our near and long-term responses to COVID-19, as well as accelerating progress to establish a world-leading health data and research infrastructure for the future.

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## News from the National Core Studies

### In-depth understanding of Long-Covid

**Longitudinal Health & Wellbeing NCS** have now seen over 150 participants in their Long Covid Deep Phenotyping Clinic. The clinic was featured on [the BBC](#) and in [The Times](#). Output from ongoing work on long Covid symptom clustering will be released soon.

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### NCS COVID-19 assets used against Monkey Pox

The tools, methods and collaborations developed by **PROTECT Transmission & Environment NCS** are being reapplied with Monkeypox patients at the Royal Free hospital by a team including UK Health Security Agency and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

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### NCS secondment for UKRI fellows

MRC and ESRC Fellowship Awards support the development of a national cadre of inter-disciplinary, big-data enabled researchers and professionals from diverse analytical backgrounds. **Longitudinal Health & Wellbeing NCS** hosted a 12-month secondment for fellows and will host an in-person event in July to showcase their work.

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## UK vaccine studies summarised

The **Immunity NCS**-supported [UK COVID Vaccine Research Hub](#) continues to publish up-to-date, reliable and easy to understand information on the latest COVID-19 vaccine studies conducted in the UK. It has gained a particular following from patient groups with different conditions affecting the immune systems, who value the detail in which studies are covered.

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## Highlighting how the national Trusted Research Environment network support future health data research

In July, **Data & Connectivity NCS** will publish a series of profiles highlighting [key Trust Research Environments in each of the UK nations](#). These services were supported by NCS to catalyse more secure, more effective research into COVID-19, future health challenges and pandemic recovery using health data.

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## Results from COVID-19 human challenge trials

Data from a **PROTECT Transmission & Environment NCS funded** human challenge study with vaccinated participants is expected by the end of July 2022.

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## 110 datasets now made available to access via the Health Data Research Innovation Gateway by Data & Connectivity NCS

Latest additions include data on the impact of COVID-19 on palliative care services, provided by the Cicely Saunders Institute at King's College London.

Transparent information on the 272 research teams using these datasets for research, in many cases including the outputs their research produced, is now captured in the Gateway [Data Use Register](#).



Browse the datasets here

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## NCS research finding highlights this month:

In a [first-of-its-kind study](#), researchers at University College London including some **Longitudinal Health and Wellbeing NCS** members used the **Data & Connectivity NCS**-supported CVD-COVID resource to reveal the exact trajectory of 57 million individuals through the healthcare system in England during the pandemic. They did this by combining multiple NHS datasets on national laboratory testing data, primary care consultations, hospitalisations and deaths, to understand what impact COVID-19 had on health outcomes.

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An **NCS Immunity** study found that 80% of patients with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, who would be at high risk from COVID-19, successfully [produced an antibody response after three doses of COVID vaccine](#). NCS Immunity worked with the researchers and PPI representatives involved in the study to develop a Q&A for patients about the findings, which is being publicised via patient groups.

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Comparing new COVID-19 treatment options using the OpenSAFELY platform cofunded with **Data & Connectivity NCS**, the **Longitudinal Health and Wellbeing NCS** found that non-hospitalised, high-risk adults in England that received sotrovimab were [at lower risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes](#) compared to those who received molnupiravir.

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**PROTECT Transmission & Environment NCS** published data from their COVID-OUT study describing [outbreak investigation in the manufacturing sector](#), examining the real-world effectiveness of different infection control measures and employee attitudes.

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The [infographic below gives some of the highlights from 'One year of the Longitudinal Health and Wellbeing NCS Long Covid Study'](#). Click to view the full infographic



Coronavirus post-acute long-term effects: constructing an evidence base

# CONVALESCENCE

## Study Update

Early findings highlighted that GP coding for Long Covid is low.

This work led to an enhanced NHS service specification, aimed at GPs, to increase the use of the codes.



Using data from 11 longitudinal studies we show that Long Covid is associated with.....



Female sex



Being overweight



Prior adverse physical and mental health

Daily life is affected in.....



1.2%  
20  
year olds



4.8%  
60  
year olds



**Impact:** The above findings directly informed the government via a report for the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (**SAGE**) and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (**NICE**) to inform their guidelines.

## More NCS research publications for the month:

- [Understanding COVID-19 trajectories from a nationwide linked electronic health record cohort of 56 million people: phenotypes, severity, waves & vaccination](#)
- [Comparative effectiveness of sotrovimab and molnupiravir for prevention of severe COVID-19 outcomes in non-hospitalised patients: an observational cohort study using the OpenSAFELY platform](#)
- [Impact on emergency and elective hospital-based care in Scotland over the first 12 months of the pandemic: interrupted time-series analysis of national lockdowns](#)
- [Association between home working and mental health by key worker status during the Covid-19 pandemic. Evidence from four British longitudinal studies](#)
- [Mental health outcomes following COVID-19 infection: Evidence from 11 UK longitudinal population studies](#)

- [Accident and emergency \(AE\) attendance in England following infection with SARS-CoV-2 Omicron or Delta](#)
- [Antibody levels following vaccination against SARS-CoV-2: associations with post-vaccination infection and risk factors](#)
- [OpenSAFELY NHS Service Restoration Observatory 2: changes in primary care activity across six clinical areas during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [Changes in English medication safety indicators throughout the COVID-19 pandemic: a federated analysis of 57 million patients' primary care records in situ using OpenSAFELY](#)
- [Effect of Relative Humidity on Transfer of Aerosol-Deposited Artificial and Human Saliva from Surfaces to Artificial Finger-Pads \(mdpi.com\)](#)
- [Attendance focus shows why good ventilation in schools still matters](#)
- [Transmission and control of SARS-CoV-2 on ground public transport: A rapid review of the literature up to May 2021](#)
- [Experiences, perceptions of risk and lasting impacts of COVID-19 for employees in the public transport sector](#)
- [Systematic review of workplace interventions to reduce the risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection outside of healthcare settings](#)
- [Occupational differences in SARS-CoV-2 infection: Analysis of the UK ONS Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey](#)
- [Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on community medication dispensing: a national cohort analysis in Wales, UK](#)
- [Risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes associated with immune-mediated inflammatory diseases and immune-modifying therapies: a nationwide cohort study in the OpenSAFELY platform](#)
- [COVID-19 trajectories among 57 million adults in England: a cohort study using electronic health records](#)
- [Safety of COVID-19 vaccination and acute neurological events: a self-controlled case series in England using the OpenSAFELY platform](#)
- [Perceived threat of COVID-19, attitudes towards vaccination, and vaccine hesitancy: A prospective longitudinal study in the UK](#)
- [Evaluation of antithrombotic use and COVID-19 outcomes in a nationwide atrial fibrillation cohort](#)
- [Population birth outcomes in 2020 and experiences of expectant mothers during the COVID-19 pandemic: A 'born in Wales' mixed methods study using routine data](#)
- [Impact of first UK COVID-19 lockdown on hospital admissions: Interrupted time series study of 32 million people](#)

- [Shielding reduced incidence of COVID-19 in patients with inflammatory arthritis but vulnerability is associated with increased mortality.](#)
- [Impact of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic on female breast, colorectal and non-small cell lung cancer incidence, stage and healthcare pathway to diagnosis during 2020 in Wales, UK, using a national cancer clinical record system.](#)
- [COVID-19 risk factors amongst 14,786 care home residents: an observational longitudinal analysis including daily community positive test rates of COVID-19, hospital stays and vaccination status in Wales \(UK\) between 1 September 2020 and 1 May 2021.](#)
- [Intensity of COVID-19 in care homes following hospital discharge in the early stages of the UK epidemic.](#)

#### Regular ONS reporting of

- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey technical article: Characteristics associated with third vaccination uptake: 21 April 2022](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey technical article: Cumulative incidence of the number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19, UK: 22 April 2022](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, UK: antibody and vaccination data, 6 April 2022](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey: UK: 8 April 2022](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, UK: characteristics of people testing positive for COVID-19, 13 April 2022](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, UK: 14 April 2022](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, UK: antibody and vaccination data, 20 April 2022](#)
- [Coronavirus and self-isolation after testing positive in England: 17 to 26 March 2022](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey technical article: Analysis of characteristics associated with booster vaccination uptake](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey technical article: cumulative incidence of the number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19, 14 March 2022'](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection Survey, UK: 22 April 2022](#)

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**Thanks for reading** - see you next month for our regular update on news and key findings - we will publish our next impact report at the end of July.

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**NCS are managed by:**

Government Office for Science

Health Data Research UK

Office for National Statistics

Health and Safety Executive

PROTECT

Longitudinal Health & Wellbeing

University of Bristol

University College London

University of Birmingham

**NCS are funded by:**

UK Research & Innovation

HM Treasury

National Institute for Health and Care Research

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