

apollo  
by wellbeing software

**CASE STUDY**

# Monitoring Respiratory and Communicable Diseases

Market Segment: **NHS National**

Client: **University of Surrey secure data and analytics  
for the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP)  
Research and Surveillance Centre (RSC)**

healthcare • connected



# Background

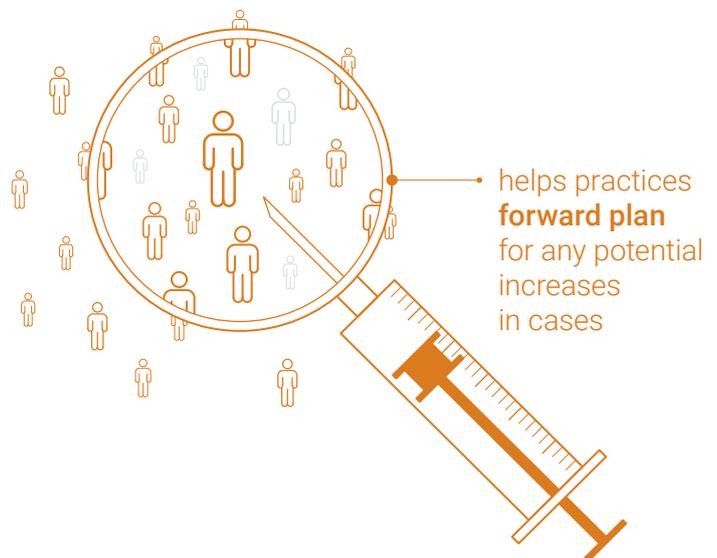


The University of Surrey (Surrey) host the secure data and analytics hub for the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Research and Surveillance Centre (RSC), [www.rcgp.org.uk/rsc](http://www.rcgp.org.uk/rsc). This secure hub creates reports for information, analysis and interpretation concerning the onset, patterns, prevalence and trends of morbidity in primary care. The RCGP RSC is part of the RCGP's Clinical Innovation and Research Centre (CIRC). It is an internationally renowned source of information, analysis and interpretation of primary care data.

The RCGP RSC collects and monitors data, and its most important activity is the surveillance of influenza and the monitoring of vaccine effectiveness on behalf of Public Health England.

Apollo provides data management services to Surrey in support of the RCGP RSC's monitoring of national respiratory and communicable diseases. While there is a wealth of patient information available for analysis across primary care, the challenge remained extracting that data from different GP systems in a logical and seamless manner, and in near real time.

## the statistics



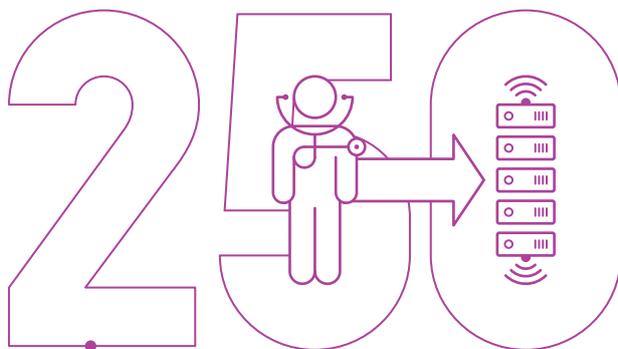
# healthcare:connected with Wellbeing Data Management Services



Apollo, part of connected healthcare specialist Wellbeing Software, securely manages data extracted from GP systems; anonymising the data at source, encrypting it and then transferring to secure servers held at the RCGP RSC secure data and analytics hub at Surrey.

Apollo delivers surveillance data on a twice weekly basis, which Surrey on behalf of the RCGP RSC then collates and publishes against. The data is used to give an indication of what to expect in the flu season and to help practices forward plan for any potential increases in cases. The data is currently derived from over 250 practices covering a population of over 2.5 million patients. A major contributor to the success of this operation was only made possible as a result of Apollo's innovative distributed data extraction and management service.

## the statistics



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approx. **250** practices...

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# Benefits



As a result of the continued success of the collaboration between: Surrey, the RCGP and Apollo, more higher quality data are provided (pseudonymised) to Public Health England for national surveillance, vaccine effectiveness and other programmes to support public health.

Additional practices have joined RCGP RSC allowing wider national coverage. The RCGP are also exploring the possibility of collaborating with Northern Ireland's Public Health Agency, where Apollo also provides data for the national pandemic flu surveillance service. If you are a general practice that wants to join RCGP RSC please contact: [MedicalDirectorRSC@rcgp.org.uk](mailto:MedicalDirectorRSC@rcgp.org.uk)

The RCGP RSC has been providing weekly reports about health and disease, called the Weekly Return Service (WRS) since 1964. The WRS monitors the number of patient consultations with new episodes of illness classified by diagnosis in England, and

provides weekly incidents rates per 100,000 of population for these new episodes of illness. It is the key primary care element of the national disease monitoring systems run by Public Health England allowing tracking of influenza and other monitored conditions. Volunteer RCGP RSC practice take virology specimens, which are sent to the Public Health England reference laboratory. These are used to precisely identify which viruses are circulating. This allows monitoring of the effectiveness of vaccination programmes and potential prevention of pandemics.

**Simon de Lusignan**, University of Surrey Professor of Primary Care & Clinical Informatics and RSC Medical Director said:

"We chose to work with Apollo as they are specialists in primary care data management services and we knew of their excellent reputation in this area. The data that Apollo extracts enables us to provide vital information for major healthcare related research across England."

For more details please contact us:  
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