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### COVID-19 symptom surveillance in immunocompromised children and young people

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# COVID-19 symptom surveillance in immunocompromised children and young people

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#### ABSTRACT

**Objectives:** To assess the frequency and severity of SARS-CoV-2 infection in immunocompromised children and young people in the United Kingdom during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic.

**Design:** A prospective observational cohort study.

**Setting:** 46 centres across the United Kingdom between 16<sup>th</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020. A weekly online questionnaire based on the ISARIC-WHO Case Report Form was used to collect participant reported data on symptoms, test results, NHS attendance, hospital admission and impact on daily life.

Participants: 1490 immunocompromised children, defined as those requiring an annual influenza vaccination due to their underlying condition or medication.
Main outcome measures: Incidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection, incidence of SARS-CoV-2 related symptoms and impact on health services and wellbeing.

**Results:** The median age was 11 years (range 0 – 18 years), 54.4% were female. The most common primary diagnoses were rheumatological (41.1%),

immunodeficiency (7.9%) and solid organ or bone marrow transplant diagnoses (6%). Methotrexate (25.9%), anti-TNF therapy (20.3%) and corticosteroids (16.7%) were most commonly prescribed. 922 (67.4%) participants reported at least one symptom consistent with suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection over the study period. 476 (34.8%) reported three or more symptoms. 110 symptomatic participants underwent a test for SARS-CoV-2. All were negative. The frequency of cough, blocked nose and sore throat decreased in both airways and non-airways disease participants over the study period. This trend was more marked in those with airways disease. 53 participants attended the NHS and 2 were admitted to hospital. Reported parental anxiety scores remained extremely high throughout the study period. **Conclusions:** There were no positive tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection, although symptoms suggestive of SARS-CoV-2 were common. This implies that either self and family isolation (shielding) measures have been effective, or similar to healthy children, immunocompromised children are less affected by SARS-CoV-2 infection than adults. Anxiety about SARS-CoV-2 infection remains extremely high. Trial registration: NCT04382508

#### Strengths

- First study to monitor a cohort of immunocompromised children of this size (1490 participants)
- The study period encompasses the height of the epidemic in the UK and subsequent lockdown period.

#### Limitations

- Self-reported information is unverified by clinical review
- Inconsistent completion of weekly questionnaires over the study period although this is offset by high median response rate (83%)

#### SUMMARY BOX

#### What is already known on this topic

- Fewer cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection have been reported in children and young people compared to adults.
- However, information on SARS-CoV-2 prevalence, progression and outcome in this age group is still limited.
- In addition, whether children and young people with pre-existing comorbidities are more likely to contract SARS-CoV-2 infection remains unclear.

#### What this study adds

- There were no positive tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection in a large cohort of 1490 immunocompromised children and young people between March and July 2020.
- The frequency of cough, blocked nose and sore throat decreased during this time period, suggesting that shielding measures may have been effective in reducing the transmission of respiratory viruses in these individuals.
- Parents of immunocompromised children and young people report high levels of anxiety regarding SARS-CoV-2 infection.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The 2019 coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) is an ongoing global health crisis with over 11,500,000 cases and in excess of 500,000 deaths worldwide. The illness is caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). As of 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) reported 306,297 cumulative cases of confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection in the United Kingdom (UK) population of 68.1 million, giving a cumulative incidence of 0.004% [1].

SARS-CoV-2 causes mild or moderate upper respiratory tract infection in the majority of children, with fever and cough being the most common symptoms, although many are asymptomatic [2]. In children, fewer cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection have been reported compared to adults [3]. However, it remains unclear how many children in the community have been infected, with the results of seroprevalence studies awaited [4].

Data demonstrating an increased risk of severe disease in immunocompromised adults are emerging (A. Richter, personal communication, publication submitted). Children with significant co-morbidities are also currently considered to be at higher risk of severe infection. They were given specific precautionary advice when UK lockdown was applied, to slow the spread of SARS-CoV-2, on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 [5,6].

The primary objective of this study is to assess the frequency and severity of SARS-CoV-2 infection in immunocompromised children and young people, a subset of the population in whom there is limited reported data.

#### **METHODS**

In this prospective cohort study, immunocompromised patients under 18 years were identified by the clinical teams at 46 centres across the UK. Children and young people were considered to be immunocompromised if they required an annual influenza vaccination due to their underlying condition or medication. Study design included patient and public involvement (PPI). Parents of children on immunosuppressive drugs were asked about their willingness to participate in such a study and whether they had any specific questions or anxieties.

Parents and participants were sent age-appropriate patient information sheets and asked to complete an online consent form. If they did not reply after receiving electronic reminders in the following three weeks, they were removed from the study database. Following completion of online consent, participants were sent a weekly online questionnaire based on the International Severe Acute Respiratory and emerging Infections Consortium (ISARIC) and WHO COVID-19 Case Report Form [7], with questions also incorporating PPI feedback (Supplementary Online Appendix B: Weekly questionnaire). Depending on the age and ability of the child or young person, questionnaires were either completed by the participant or their parent or carer.

From 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020, information was collected regarding symptom presentation, test results, NHS attendance, hospital admission and the effects of COVID-19 on daily life. Loss of smell or taste was added to the weekly questionnaire at week 14 following emerging evidence for anosmia and ageusia in COVID-19 disease. Study recruitment closed on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Data collection is ongoing and follow up is planned to continue for 12 months. The study was approved by the Leeds NHS Research Ethics Committee (IRAS 281544).

#### **Statistical Analysis**

Longitudinal data were collected as participants were asked to complete a weekly online questionnaire for one year. We report data up to the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020, when lockdown restrictions in the UK were eased. All questionnaire data collected over this 16 week study period were included in the analysis, although some participants did not complete the questionnaire every week. Participants who did not complete any questionnaires were not included in the analysis. Analysis assumed that the date of entry into the study was the date of the first completed questionnaire. Data were cleaned and analysed every week and a top level report provided to NHS

England and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH). The descriptive statistics presented in this paper were analysed using SAS9.4.

#### RESULTS

Recruitment increased over the 16 week study period (Figure 1). By week 16, 1490 eligible patients or their parents had consented. Weekly online questionnaire response rate varied between 74% and 100% (Figure 1). The median age of years , stics of particip participants was 11 years (range 0 – 18 years). 54.5% of participants were female. Baseline characteristics of participants are shown in Table 1.

|  | Male        | Female      | Total       |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | n (%)       | n (%)       | n (%)       |
| Primary diagnosis:                             |             |             |             |
| Juvenile idiopathic arthritis                  | 140 (20.6%) | 314 (38.7%) | 454 (30.5%) |
| Other rheumatological diagnoses                | 48 (7.1%)   | 110 (13.6%) | 158 (10.6%) |
| Immunodeficiency disorders                     | 64 (9.4%)   | 53 (6.5%)   | 117 (7.9%)  |
| Solid organ or bone marrow transplant          | 53 (7.8%)   | 36 (4.4%)   | 89 (6.0%)   |
| Renal disease                                  | 56 (8.2%)   | 27 (3.3%)   | 83 (5.6%)   |
| Malignant haematology & oncological diagnoses  | 51 (7.5%)   | 28 (3.5%)   | 79 (5.3%)   |
| Airways disease                                | 29 (4.3%)   | 24 (3.0%)   | 53 (3.6%)   |
| Inflammatory bowel disease                     | 29 (4.3%)   | 23 (2.8%)   | 52 (3.5%)   |
| Diabetes                                       | 30 (4.4%)   | 19 (2.3%)   | 49 (3.3%)   |
| Neurological diagnoses                         | 20 (2.9%)   | 10 (1.2%)   | 30 (2.0%)   |
| Other gastroenterology & hepatology diagnoses  | 7 (1.0%)    | 12 (1.5%)   | 19 (1.3%)   |
| Other 💦  | 26 (3.8%)   | 34 (4.2%)   | 60 (4.0%)   |
| Missing diagnosis                              | 126 (18.6%) | 121 (14.9%) | 247 (16.6%) |
| Total  | 679 (45.6%) | 811 (54.4%) | 1490 (100%) |
| Medication:                                    |             |             |             |
| Methotrexate                                   | 137 (20.2%) | 249 (30.7%) | 386 (25.9%) |
| Anti-TNF therapy                               | 101 (14.9%) | 202 (24.9%) | 303 (20.3%) |
| Corticosteroids                                | 134 (19.7%) | 115 (14.2%) | 249 (16.7%) |
| Other antibiotics and antivirals               | 105 (15.5%) | 63 (7.8%)   | 168 (11.3%) |
| Calcineurin inhibitors                         | 87 (12.8%)  | 71 (8.8%)   | 158 (10.6%) |
| Mycophenolate mofetil (MMF)                    | 64 (9.4%)   | 67 (8.3%)   | 131 (8.8%)  |
| Other disease modifying anti-rheumatic drugs   | 56 (8.2%)   | 53 (6.5%)   | 109 (7.3%)  |
| Inhalers                                       | 46 (6.8%)   | 40 (4.9%)   | 86 (5.8%)   |
| Insulin  | 46 (6.8%)   | 36 (4.4%)   | 82 (5.5%)   |
| Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) | 21 (3.1%)   | 51 (6.3%)   | 72 (4.8%)   |
| Chemotherapy                                   | 41 (6.0%)   | 27 (3.3%)   | 68 (4.6%)   |
| Azithromycin                                   | 40 (5.9%)   | 28 (3.5%)   | 68 (4.6%)   |
| Hydroxychloroquine                             | 11 (1.6%)   | 44 (5.4%)   | 55 (3.7%)   |
| Tocilizumab                                    | 16 (2.4%)   | 33 (4.1%)   | 49 (3.3%)   |
| Intravenous or subcutaneous immunoglobulin     | 21 (3.1%)   | 17 (2.1%)   | 38 (2.6%)   |
| Other biologic drugs                           | 14 (2.1%)   | 22 (2.7%)   | 36 (2.4%)   |
| Total  | 679         | 811         | 1490        |

#### Table 1: Baseline characteristics: primary diagnosis and medication

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Information regarding primary diagnosis was incomplete for 247 (16.6%) participants. Of 1368 participants who completed at least one weekly online questionnaire, 922 (67.4%) reported at least one symptom consistent with suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection over the study period. 476 (34.8%) reported 3 or more simultaneous symptoms. The most frequently reported symptoms included joint pain, fatigue, headache, nausea and muscle pain. Symptoms according to primary diagnosis and medication can be found in Supplementary Online Appendix C.

Heat map visualisation of the dataset suggests a degree of association between certain symptom pairs (Figure 2a). The frequency of cough, blocked nose and sore throat decreased in both airways and non-airways disease participants over the study period (Figure 2b and 2c). This trend was more marked in those with airways disease (Figure 2b).

53 participants (3.9%) visited primary or secondary NHS care due to concerns about SARS-CoV-2 infection, of whom 47 (88.7%) reported symptoms. Two participants were admitted to hospital. 135 participants (9.9%) underwent a viral PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 infection. 110 of these reported symptoms. None of the study participants tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection. 137 participants had their medication suspended or changed during the study period, of whom 117 (85.4%) reported symptoms.

Figure 3a illustrates relatively static low school attendance over the 16 week study period, during which schools were closed to the majority of children. 62% of questionnaire respondents reported high levels of anxiety (scores of 7 to 10 out of 10) at the start of the study, with anxiety levels remaining extremely high throughout (Figure 3b). With the easing of lockdown restrictions in July 2020, anxiety themes included concerns regarding the severity of SARS-CoV-2 infection, the re-opening of schools and a second wave of infection.

#### DISCUSSION

While 922 (67.4%) participants reported one or more symptoms consistent with suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection, no participant tested positive for SARS-CoV-2,

 suggesting an absence of symptom specificity [2] and emphasising that these patients did not have severe SARS-CoV-2 infection needing hospital admission. This study period encompassed the peak in confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases in the UK, during which time many immunocompromised children were shielding. In addition, during the initial weeks of the outbreak, viral PCR tests were only performed if a child was admitted to hospital. As only 9.9% of participants were tested, some cases of mild SARS-CoV-2 disease may have been missed.

In the UK, of the 651 children with laboratory confirmed SARS-CoV-2, between 17<sup>th</sup> January and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020, 375 (57.6%) did not have an underlying co-morbidity [8]. In the United States, the majority of children admitted to intensive care with SARS-CoV-2 infection had a pre-existing co-morbidity [9).However, the contribution of co-morbidity to SARS-CoV-2 disease severity remains unclear due to the low prevalence of severe disease in this age group [10]. Limited data for paediatric oncology, liver transplant, chronic kidney disease (CKD) and inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) patients is reassuring, with few cases of mostly mild infection reported [11-14].

The fact that the frequency of cough, blocked nose and sore throat decreased in both airways and non-airways disease participants over the study period suggests that shielding measures may have been effective in reducing the transmission of respiratory viruses in these children [15]. Overall, participants showed few symptoms specific for SARS-CoV-2 disease, had few hospital admissions and had no positive tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection. This was despite the study period occurring at the height of the pandemic in the UK, which may also suggest that similar to healthy children, immunocompromised children are less affected by SARS-CoV-2 infection than adults [16].

Only 53 participants sought NHS attention and only two were admitted to hospital, in keeping with reports that the proportion of vulnerable paediatric inpatients has significantly decreased during the pandemic [17]. This implies that either families were successfully managing minor or chronic symptoms at home, or they were not accessing healthcare appropriately. A decrease in attendances to Paediatric

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Emergency Departments has been reported in the UK following the start of the pandemic [18]. While concerns were initially raised about delayed presentations of serious illness [19], a formal survey found this to be rare [20]. It may also be possible that the reduction in "normal" upper and lower respiratory infection transmission prevented by self-isolation and increased hand hygiene, during the lockdown period has had the indirect effect of also reducing other reported minor or chronic symptoms in this cohort.

More than 50% of questionnaire respondents reported high levels of anxiety at the start of the study, similar to national figures [21]. However, anxiety scores remained extremely high during this study, whereas average anxiety scores nationally reduced from 5.2 to 4.0 out of 10 by May 2020 [21]. With the advice to stop shielding from 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020, the planned re-opening of schools in September 2020 and uncertainty regarding a second wave of infection, these families require up-to-date, evidence-based guidance on the need for specific precautionary measures. If such evidence is not available, a holistic, child-centred approach must be taken by clinicians on a case by case basis [6].

Study limitations include patient or parent reported information, unverified by clinical review. Inconsistent completion of weekly questionnaires over the study period may have affected the data, although a median response rate of 83% (range 74% to 100%) is high for a questionnaire study. Over-reporting of symptoms may have occurred particularly as anxiety levels were high. Under-reporting of symptoms may also have occurred due to the nature of the study, which required weekly participation.

Information on SARS-CoV-2 prevalence, progression and outcomes in children is still limited, with the results of national surveillance programmes awaited. Whether children with pre-existing co-morbidities are more likely to contract SARS-CoV-2 infection remains unclear. Further research is warranted to identify risk factors for severe infection in children and young people to aid health service planning, improve public health messaging and minimise unforeseen consequences of imposed restrictions on child health and wellbeing.

In conclusion, this is the first study to prospectively observe a cohort of immunocompromised paediatric patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. We report results from a large cohort of 1490 patients over 16 weeks. Although symptoms indicative of SAR-CoV-2 infection were common in this cohort of immunocompromised children and young people, there were no positive tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection. Shielding measures appear to have been effective at reducing the frequency of respiratory tract symptoms. Despite this, parents remain very anxious, highlighting the pressing need to clearly define and communicate ing. SARS-CoV-2 risk in children and young people.

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**Data sharing statement:** Research data may be made available upon reasonable request, wherever legally and ethically possible.

**Transparency declaration:** The Corresponding Author affirms that the manuscript is an honest, accurate and transparent account of the study being reported. No important aspects of the study have been omitted. Any discrepancies from the study as planned have been explained.

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#### Figure 1: Study recruitment and weekly questionnaire response rate

## Figure 2: Heat map depicting association of reported symptoms during the study period

Scale of 0 – 800 representing cumulative frequency of simultaneously reported symptoms over the study period

#### Figure 3: Reported symptoms in airways disease patients over time

#### Figure 4: Reported symptoms in non-airways disease patients over time

#### Figure 5: Reported school attendance over time

#### Figure 6: Reported anxiety levels over time

Anxiety scores out of 10 categorised into mild (1 to 3), moderate (4 to 6) and severe (7 to 10) anxiety, with a score of 0 indicating no anxiety.



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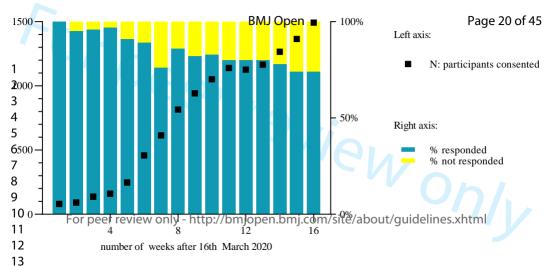
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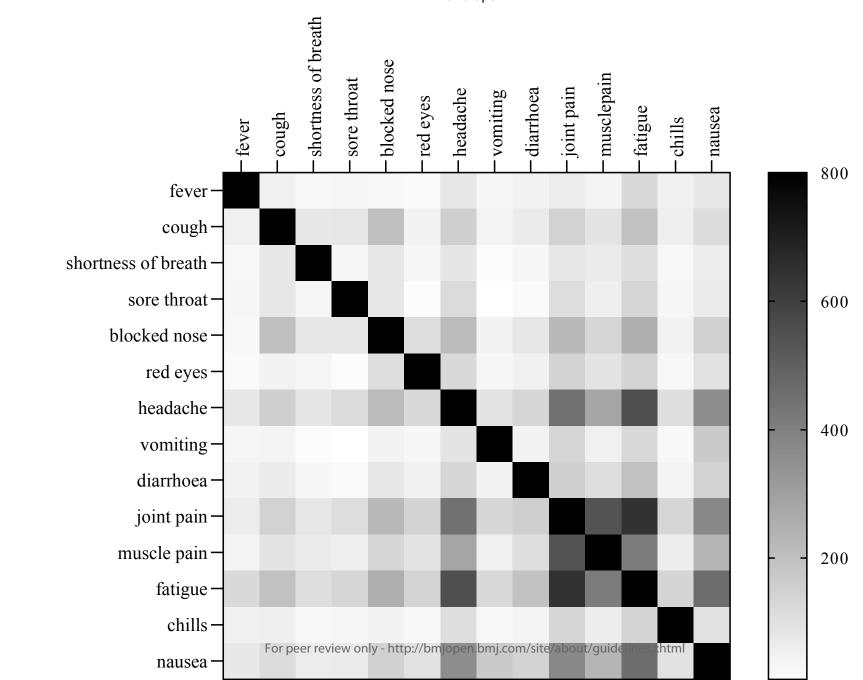
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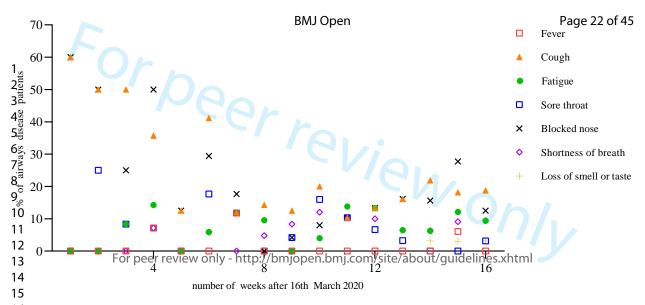
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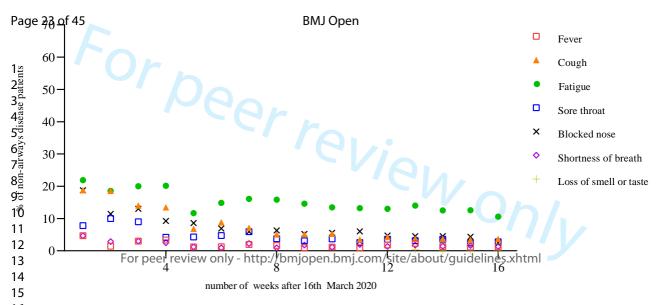


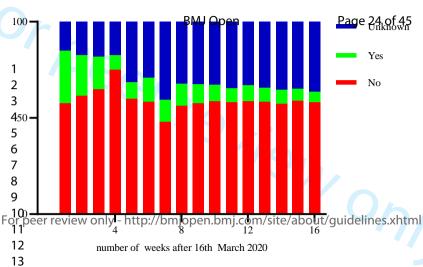


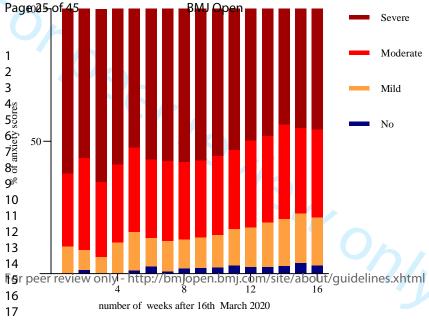
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## Appendix B: Weekly Questionnaire

|       | n the week beginning xx/xx/xxxx have you experienced any of the following<br>ymptoms?  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1.1   | I have had no symptoms   | O I have had no symptoms<br>O I have had symptoms<br>O Yes<br>O No   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2   | Measured temperature above 38 °C   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.1 | If 'Measured temperature above 38<br>°C' is equal to 'Yes' answer this<br>question:<br>Which days did you measure a<br>temperature above 38 °C?  | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.2 | If 'Measured temperature above 38<br>°C' is equal to 'Yes' answer this<br>question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom? | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.3   | Cough  | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.3.1 | If 'Cough' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience a<br>cough?   | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.3.2 | If 'Cough' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?                               | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.4   | Shortness of breath  | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.4.1 | If 'Shortness of breath' is equal to<br>'Yes' answer this question:<br>Which days did you experience<br>shortness of breath?                     | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> </ul>                   |  |  |  |  |  |

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| 1.4.2 | If 'Shortness of breath' is equal to                     | O Yes         |
|       | 'Yes' answer this question:                              | O No          |
|       | Have you experienced a worsening of                      |               |
| 4 5   | the above symptom?                                       | O Yes         |
| 1.5   | Sore throat  | O Yes<br>O No |
|       |  |               |
| 1.5.1 | If 'Sore throat' is equal to 'Yes'                       | □ Monday      |
| -     | answer this question:                                    | □ Tuesday     |
|       | Which days did you experience sore                       | □ Wednesday   |
|       | throat?  | □ Thursday    |
|       |  | □ Friday      |
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| 4.5.0 |  |               |
| 1.5.2 | If 'Sore throat' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question: | O Yes<br>O No |
|       | Have you experienced a worsening of                      |               |
|       | the above symptom?                                       |               |
| 1.6   | Blocked nose   | O Yes         |
|       |  | O No          |
|       |  |               |
| 1.6.1 | If 'Blocked nose' is equal to 'Yes'                      | 🗆 Monday      |
|       | answer this question:                                    | □ Tuesday     |
|       | Which days did you experience blocked                    | □ Wednesday   |
|       | nose?  | □ Thursday    |
|       |  | □ Friday      |
|       | 7  | □ Saturday    |
|       |  | □ Sunday      |
| 1.6.2 | If 'Blocked nose' is equal to 'Yes'                      | O Yes         |
|       | answer this question:                                    | O No          |
|       | Have you experienced a worsening of                      |               |
|       | the above symptom?                                       |               |
| 1.7   | Red eyes   | O Yes         |
|       |  | O No          |
| 1.7.1 | If 'Red eyes' is equal to 'Yes' answer                   | □ Monday      |
|       | this question:   | □ Tuesday     |
|       | Which days did you experience red                        | □ Wednesday   |
|       | eyes?  | □ Thursday    |
|       |  | □ Friday      |
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| 1.7.2 | If 'Red eyes' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:    | O Yes<br>O No |
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| Have you experienced a worsening of  |  |
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| Headache   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| If 'Headache' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience<br>headache?                   | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul>   |
| If 'Headache' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?    | O Yes<br>O No  |
| Joint pain   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| If 'Joint pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience joint<br>pain?               | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul>   |
| If 'Joint pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| Muscle pain  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| If 'Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes'<br>answer this question:<br>Which days did you experience muscle<br>pain?             | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul>   |
| If 'Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes'<br>answer this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom? | O Yes<br>O No  |
| Fatigue  | O Yes<br>O No  |
|  | If 'Headache' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Which days did you experience headache?         If 'Headache' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Have you experienced a worsening of the above symptom?         Joint pain         If 'Joint pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Which days did you experience joint pain?         If 'Joint pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Have you experienced a worsening of the above symptom?         Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Have you experienced a worsening of the above symptom?         Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Which days did you experience muscle pain?         If 'Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Which days did you experience muscle pain? |

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| 1.11.1 | If 'Fatigue' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience fatigue?                    | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |
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| 1.11.2 | If 'Fatigue' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom? | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.12   | Chills   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.12.1 | If 'Chills' is equal to 'Yes' answer this<br>question:<br>Which days did you experience chills?                      | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |
| 1.12.2 | If 'Chills' is equal to 'Yes' answer this<br>question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.13   | Nausea   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.13.1 | If 'Nausea' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience nausea?                      | <ul> <li>Monday</li> <li>Tuesday</li> <li>Wednesday</li> <li>Thursday</li> <li>Friday</li> <li>Saturday</li> <li>Sunday</li> </ul>               |
| 1.13.2 | If 'Nausea' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.14   | Vomiting   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.14.1 | If 'Vomiting' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience<br>vomiting?               | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> </ul>                                       |

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| 1.14.2 | If 'Vomiting' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?                   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.15   | Diarrhoea   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.15.1 | If 'Diarrhoea' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience<br>diarrhoea?                                | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |
| 1.15.2 | If 'Diarrhoea' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?                  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.16   | Loss of smell or taste  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.16.1 | If 'Loss of smell or taste' is equal to<br>'Yes' answer this question:<br>Which days did you experience loss of<br>smell or taste?      | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |
| 1.16.2 | If 'Loss of smell or taste' is equal to<br>'Yes' answer this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?     | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.17   | Other symptoms  |  |
| 2.1    | Has your child changed medication this week?  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 2.1.1  | If 'Has your child changed<br>medication this week?" if equal to<br>'Yes' answer this question: What<br>medication has changed and how? |  |

| 2.2   | Was your child in contact with someone<br>who is diagnosed with or suspected to<br>have coronavirus?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
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| 2.3   | Did your child visit the NHS because<br>you were worried about coronavirus<br>infection?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.4   | Did your child have a test for coronavirus?  | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.5   | Did your child have a confirmed diagnosis of coronavirus infection?  | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.6   | Was your child admitted to hospital because of a coronavirus infection?  | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.6.1 | If 'Was your child admitted to<br>hospital because of a coronavirus<br>infection?' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question: When was your child<br>admitted?   | dd-mm-yyyy                                    |
| 2.6.2 | If 'Was your child admitted to<br>hospital because of a coronavirus<br>infection?' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question: How many days was<br>your child admitted?  |   |
| 2.7   | Did you have to self-isolate your child because they had symptoms or because of medical advice related to coronavirus?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.7.1 | If 'Did you have to self-isolate your<br>child because they had symptoms or<br>because of medical advice related to<br>coronavirus?' is equal to 'Yes'<br>answer this question:<br>How many days did you self-isolate your<br>child this week? | □ 1<br>□ 2<br>□ 3<br>□ 4<br>□ 5<br>□ 6<br>□ 7 |
| 2.8   | Were immunosuppressive drugs<br>postponed because of coronavirus<br>infection?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.8.1 | If 'Were immunosuppressive drugs<br>postponed because of coronavirus<br>infection?' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question: How many days did you   | □ 1<br>□ 2<br>□ 3<br>□ 4                      |

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|        | postpone the immunosuppressants this week?  | □ 5<br>□ 6<br>□ 7                             |
| 2.9    | Did your child miss any sports or fun<br>activities because of the coronavirus<br>pandemic?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.9.1  | If 'Did your child miss any sports or<br>fun activities because of the<br>coronavirus pandemic?' is equal to<br>Yes answer this question: How many<br>activities did your child miss? |   |
| 2.10   | Did your child miss school because of coronavirus infection?  | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.10.1 | If 'Did your child miss school<br>because of coronavirus infection?' is<br>equal to Yes answer this question:<br>How many days of school did your child<br>miss this week?            | □ 1<br>□ 2<br>□ 3<br>□ 4<br>□ 5<br>□ 6<br>□ 7 |
| 2.11   | On a scale of 0-10, how worried are you<br>about coronavirus affecting your child?<br>(0 = not worried, 10 = extremely<br>worried)  |   |
| 2.12   | Is there anything that you are<br>particularly worried about that you would<br>like to share?   |   |
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## Appendix C:

## Symptom frequency by primary diagnosis

| Symptoms     | JIA<br>(%) | Other<br>rheumatology<br>diagnosis (%) | Airways<br>disease<br>(%) | Immunodeficiency<br>disorder (%) | Diabetes<br>(%) | Solid organ or<br>bone marrow<br>transplant<br>(%) | Nephrotic<br>syndrome<br>(%) | Other<br>kidney<br>disease<br>(%) | IBD<br>(%) | Other<br>gastroenterology<br>and hepatology (%) | Malignant<br>haematology &<br>oncology (%) | Neurology<br>(%) | Other<br>(%) |
|--------------|------------|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|---|--|------------------|--------------|
| Fever        | 1.63       | 0.81                                   | 0.24                      | 0.73                             | 0.16            | 0.41   | 0.08                         | 0.08                              | 0.00       | 0.08  | 0.57                                       | 0.24             | 0.33         |
| Cough        | 4.80       | 1.54                                   | 1.63                      | 1.54                             | 0.24            | 1.46   | 0.57                         | 0.16                              | 0.08       | 0.00  | 0.89                                       | 0.16             | 0.65         |
| SOB          | 1.63       | 0.89                                   | 0.65                      | 0.65                             | 0.08            | 0.08   | 0.16                         | 0.08                              | 0.16       | 0.00  | 0.16                                       | 0.08             | 0.81         |
| Sore throat  | 6.02       | 2.28                                   | 0.98                      | 0.98                             | 0.16            | 0.41   | 0.24                         | 0.24                              | 0.49       | 0.33  | 0.89                                       | 0.33             | 0.89         |
| Blocked nose | 7.48       | 2.60                                   | 1.79                      | 1.30                             | 0.49            | 1.30   | 0.65                         | 0.41                              | 0.73       | 0.08  | 0.57                                       | 0.24             | 1.22         |
| Red eyes     | 4.07       | 2.11                                   | 0.57                      | 1.14                             | 0.49            | 0.41   | 0.49                         | 0.08                              | 0.33       | 0.08  | 0.57                                       | 0.16             | 0.57         |
| Headache     | 11.30      | 4.96                                   | 1.30                      | 2.20                             | 0.98            | 1.54   | 0.65                         | 0.33                              | 0.98       | 0.49  | 1.87                                       | 0.73             | 1.63         |
| Vomiting     | 3.66       | 0.89                                   | 0.33                      | 0.65                             | 0.08            | 0.89   | 0.24                         | 0.24                              | 0.00       | 0.16  | 1.14                                       | 0.08             | 0.98         |
| Diarrhoea    | 4.23       | 1.63                                   | 0.57                      | 1.46                             | 0.49            | 0.81   | 0.33                         | 0.33                              | 0.81       | 0.16  | 0.73                                       | 0.24             | 0.73         |
| Joint pain   | 19.84      | 3.98                                   | 0.24                      | 1.22                             | 0.16            | 1.30   | 0.65                         | 0.24                              | 0.81       | 0.08  | 1.87                                       | 0.41             | 1.06         |
| Muscle pain  | 8.46       | 3.33                                   | 0.57                      | 1.22                             | 0.33            | 1.06   | 0.65                         | 0.24                              | 0.49       | 0.16  | 1.38                                       | 0.33             | 0.81         |
| Fatigue      | 13.98      | 4.07                                   | 1.30                      | 2.60                             | 0.49            | 1.30   | 0.89                         | 0.57                              | 1.30       | 0.49  | 3.25                                       | 0.89             | 1.30         |
| Chills       | 2.11       | 1.06                                   | 0.08                      | 0.49                             | 0.08            | 0.41   | 0.08                         | 0.08                              | 0.24       | 0.16  | 0.33                                       | 0.33             | 0.24         |

Abbreviations: SOB shortness of breath, JIA juvenile idiopathic arthritis, IBD inflammatory bowel disease

## Symptom frequency by medication

| Symptoms      | Methotrexate (%) | Hydroxychloroquine (%) | Other<br>DMARDs (%) | Corticosteroids (%) | Anti-TNF<br>therapy<br>(%) | Tocilizumab (%) | Other<br>biologic drugs<br>(%) | MMF (%) |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Fever         | 4.92             | 9.09                   | 0.92                | 5.62                | 4.62                       | 4.08            | 11.11                          | 5.34    |
| Cough         | 12.44            | 14.55                  | 9.17                | 14.06               | 15.84                      | 4.08            | 8.33                           | 15.27   |
| SOB           | 3.11             | 3.64                   | 1.83                | 6.02                | 4.29                       | 8.16            | 5.56                           | 4.58    |
| Sore throat   | 16.06            | 21.82                  | 18.35               | 11.24               | 18.15                      | 18.37           | 8.33                           | 10.69   |
| Blocked nose  | 19.69            | 25.45                  | 13.76               | 13.65               | 23.76                      | 14.29           | 19.44                          | 17.56   |
| Red eyes      | 12.69            | 10.91                  | 8.26                | 10.44               | 11.55                      | 14.29           | 13.89                          | 6.11    |
| Headache      | 29.27            | 45.45                  | 29.36               | 28.11               | 30.69                      | 28.57           | 27.78                          | 25.19   |
| Vomiting      | 12.18            | 9.09                   | 4.59                | 12.05               | 8.25                       | 12.24           | 8.33                           | 7.63    |
| Diarrhoea     | 9.84             | 10.91                  | 11.93               | 11.65               | 11.88                      | 20.41           | 8.33                           | 12.98   |
| Joint pain    | 43.78            | 43.64                  | 33.03               | 26.91               | 46.20                      | 69.39           | 36.11                          | 22.14   |
| Muscle pain   | 20.98            | 41.82                  | 22.02               | 24.50               | 21.45                      | 30.61           | 25.00                          | 19.08   |
| Fatigue       | 39.12            | 43.64                  | 29.36               | 34.14               | 34.65                      | 40.82           | 38.89                          | 24.43   |
| Chills        | 5.44             | 12.73                  | 5.50                | 7.23                | 6.93                       | 6.12            | 5.56                           | 6.87    |
| Nausea        | 31.09            | 27.27                  | 15.60               | 20.88               | 25.41                      | 26.53           | 16.67                          | 15.27   |
| Loss of smell | 0.52             | 1.82                   | 0.00                | 0.80                | 0.33                       | 0.00            | 0.00                           | 1.53    |

| Symptoms      | Chemotherapy (%) | Azathioprine (%) | Other antibiotics<br>and antivirals (%) | Tacrolimus (%) | Inhalers (%) | Insulin (%) | NSAIDs (%) | IV or SC IG<br>(%) |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|---|----------------|--------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|
| Fever         | 10.29            | 7.35             | 7.14                                    | 3.80           | 8.14         | 3.66        | 9.72       | 2.63               |
| Cough         | 14.71            | 25.00            | 18.45                                   | 15.19          | 31.40        | 8.54        | 15.28      | 13.16              |
| SOB           | 5.88             | 8.82             | 5.95                                    | 3.16           | 16.28        | 3.66        | 8.33       | 7.89               |
| Sore throat   | 8.82             | 13.24            | 10.71                                   | 6.96           | 18.60        | 7.32        | 13.89      | 0.00               |
| Blocked nose  | 10.29            | 16.18            | 13.69                                   | 14.56          | 36.05        | 9.76        | 25.00      | 10.53              |
| Red eyes      | 10.29            | 8.82             | 9.52                                    | 5.70           | 15.12        | 9.76        | 16.67      | 5.26               |
| Headache      | 27.94            | 32.35            | 20.83                                   | 18.35          | 32.56        | 25.61       | 44.44      | 15.79              |
| Vomiting      | 22.06            | 10.29            | 14.29                                   | 8.86           | 12.79        | 7.32        | 9.72       | 5.26               |
| Diarrhoea     | 14.71            | 10.29            | 13.10                                   | 10.13          | 12.79        | 10.98       | 12.50      | 5.26               |
| Joint pain    | 29.41            | 14.71            | 20.24                                   | 17.09          | 18.60        | 8.54        | 61.11      | 18.42              |
| Muscle pain   | 23.53            | 11.76            | 17.26                                   | 14.56          | 19.77        | 7.32        | 31.94      | 7.89               |
| Fatigue       | 47.06            | 30.88            | 30.36                                   | 18.35          | 30.23        | 17.07       | 54.17      | 18.42              |
| Chills        | 7.35             | 2.94             | 4.17                                    | 3.80           | 6.98         | 1.22        | 11.11      | 0.00               |
| Nausea        | 30.88            | 19.12            | 17.86                                   | 12.66          | 20.93        | 10.98       | 27.78      | 10.53              |
| Loss of smell | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00                                    | 1.27           | 1.16         | 0.00        | 4.17       | 0.00               |

Abbreviations: NSAIDs non-steroid anti-inflammatory drugs, IV intravenous, SC subcutaneous, IG immunoglobulin

#### STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of cohort studies

|                        | Item<br>No | Recommendation  | Pag<br>No |
|------------------------|------------|---|-----------|
| Title and abstract     | 1          | (a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the       | 2         |
|                        |            | abstract  |           |
|                        |            | (b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was         | 2         |
|                        |            | done and what was found   |           |
| Introduction           |            |   |           |
| Background/rationale   | 2          | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being         | 4         |
|                        |            | reported  |           |
| Objectives             | 3          | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses                    | 4         |
| Methods                |            |   | -1        |
| Study design           | 4          | Present key elements of study design early in the paper                             | 4-6       |
| Setting                | 5          | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of           | 4-6       |
|                        |            | recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection                               |           |
| Participants           | 6          | (a) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of      | 4-6       |
|                        |            | participants. Describe methods of follow-up   |           |
|                        |            | (b) For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and           |           |
|                        |            | unexposed   |           |
| Variables              | 7          | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and      | 4-6       |
|                        |            | effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable                           |           |
| Data sources/          | 8*         | For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of       | 4-6       |
| measurement            |            | assessment (measurement). Describe comparability of assessment methods if           |           |
|                        |            | there is more than one group  |           |
| Bias                   | 9          | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias                           | 4-6       |
| Study size             | 10         | Explain how the study size was arrived at   | 4-6       |
| Quantitative variables | 11         | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable,     | 4-6       |
|                        |            | describe which groupings were chosen and why  |           |
| Statistical methods    | 12         | (a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for           | 4-6       |
|                        |            | confounding   |           |
|                        |            | (b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions                 |           |
|                        |            | (c) Explain how missing data were addressed   |           |
|                        |            | (d) If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed                      |           |
|                        |            | ( <u>e</u> ) Describe any sensitivity analyses                                      |           |
| Results                |            |   |           |
| Participants           | 13*        | (a) Report numbers of individuals at each stage of study—eg numbers potentially     | 6         |
|                        |            | eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study,      |           |
|                        |            | completing follow-up, and analysed  |           |
|                        |            | (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage                                |           |
|                        |            | (c) Consider use of a flow diagram  |           |
| Descriptive data       | 14*        | (a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social)   | 6-8       |
|                        |            | and information on exposures and potential confounders                              |           |
|                        |            | (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest |           |
|                        |            | (c) Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)                         |           |
| Outcome data           | 15*        | Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time                      | 6-8       |

| Main results     | 16 | (a) Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-adjusted estimates and their                                 | 6 |
|------------------|----|---|---|
|                  |    | precision (eg, 95% confidence interval). Make clear which confounders were adjusted for                                   |   |
|                  |    | and why they were included  |   |
|                  |    | (b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized   |   |
|                  |    | ( <i>c</i> ) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period |   |
| Other analyses   | 17 | Report other analyses done-eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity                                     | ( |
|                  |    | analyses  |   |
| Discussion       |    |   |   |
| Key results      | 18 | Summarise key results with reference to study objectives  | 8 |
| Limitations      | 19 | Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision.                           | 8 |
|                  |    | Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias  |   |
| Interpretation   | 20 | Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations,                                    | 1 |
|                  |    | multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence                                       |   |
| Generalisability | 21 | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results   | 1 |
| Other informati  | on |   |   |
| Funding          | 22 | Give the source of funding and the role of the funders for the present study and, if                                      | 1 |
|                  |    | applicable, for the original study on which the present article is based  |   |

\*Give information separately for exposed and unexposed groups.

Note: An Explanation and Elaboration article discusses each checklist item and gives methodological background and published examples of transparent reporting. The STROBE checklist is best used in conjunction with this article (freely available on the Web sites of PLoS Medicine at http://www.plosmedicine.org/, Annals of Internal Medicine at http://www.annals.org/, and Epidemiology at http://www.epidem.com/). Information on the STROBE Initiative is available at http://www.strobe-statement.org.

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#### COVID-19 symptom surveillance in immunocompromised children and young people in the UK: a prospective observational cohort study

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|                                      |  |

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## **COVID-19 symptom surveillance in immunocompromised** children and young people in the UK: a prospective observational cohort study

Meera Shaunak<sup>1\*</sup>, Ravin Patel<sup>2\*</sup>, Corine Driessens<sup>2,4</sup>, Lynne Mills<sup>1</sup>, Alice Leahy<sup>3</sup>, Diane Gbesemete<sup>1,2</sup>, Daniel Owens<sup>1,2</sup>, Jane S Lucas<sup>2,4,5</sup>, Saul N Faust<sup>1,2,5+</sup>, Hans de Graaf<sup>1,2,3+</sup>

On behalf of the ImmunoCOVID19 study group (a full list of co-authors is provided in Supplementary Online Appendix A)

\* and + Equal contribution

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Keywords: SARS-CoV-2, symptoms, children, immunocompromise

## ABSTRACT

**Objectives:** To describe the frequency of symptoms compatible with SARS-CoV-2 infection in immunocompromised children and young people in the United Kingdom during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. To describe patient/ parent anxiety regarding SARS-CoV-2 infection in this cohort.

**Design:** A prospective observational cohort study.

**Setting:** 46 centres across the United Kingdom between 16<sup>th</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020. A weekly online questionnaire based on the ISARIC-WHO Case Report Form was used to collect participant reported data on symptoms, test results, NHS attendance, hospital admission and impact on daily life.

Participants: 1490 immunocompromised children, defined as those requiring an annual influenza vaccination due to their underlying condition or medication.
Main outcome measures: Incidence of SARS-CoV-2-like symptoms and patient/parent anxiety score.

**Results:** Over 16 weeks during the first wave of the pandemic, no SARS-CoV-2 infection was diagnosed in this large immunocompromised paediatric cohort (median age 11 years, 54.4% female). 110 symptomatic participants underwent a test for SARS-CoV-2; all were negative. 922 (67.4%) participants reported at least one symptom consistent with suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection over the study period. 476 (34.8%) reported three or more symptoms. The most frequently reported symptoms included joint pain, fatigue, headache, nausea and muscle pain. SARS-CoV-2 testing during this period was performed on admitted patients only. 137 participants had their medication suspended or changed during the study period, due to assumed COVID-19 disease risk. 62% reported high levels of anxiety (scores of 7-10 out of 10) at the start of the study, with anxiety levels remaining high throughout the study period.

**Conclusions:** Although symptoms related to SARS-CoV-2 infection in children were common, there were no positive tests in this large immunocompromised cohort. Symptom-based screening to facilitate early detection of SARS-CoV-2 infection may not be helpful in these individuals. Patient/ parent anxiety about SARS-CoV-2 infection was high.

Trial registration: NCT04382508

## Strengths:

- Large prospective cohort of immunocompromised children
- High response rate of patients to questionnaire

## Limitations:

- Patient reported data
- Limited SARS-CoV-2 testing due to shortage in national supply

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## INTRODUCTION

 The 2019 coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) is an ongoing global health crisis with over 11,500,000 cases and in excess of 500,000 deaths worldwide. The illness is caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). As of 5<sup>th</sup> August 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) reported 306,297 cumulative cases of confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection in the United Kingdom (UK) population of 68.1 million, giving a cumulative incidence of 0.004% [1].

SARS-CoV-2 causes mild or moderate upper respiratory tract infection in the majority of children, with fever and cough being the most common symptoms, although many are asymptomatic [2]. In children, fewer cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection have been reported compared to adults [3]. However, it remains unclear how many children in the community have been infected, with the results of seroprevalence studies awaited [4].

Data demonstrating an increased risk of severe disease in immunocompromised adults are emerging (A. Richter, personal communication, publication submitted). Children with significant co-morbidities are also currently considered to be at higher risk of severe infection. They were given specific precautionary advice when UK lockdown was applied, to slow the spread of SARS-CoV-2, on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 [5,6].

The primary objective of this study is to describe the frequency of symptoms compatible with SARS-CoV-2 infection in immunocompromised children and young people, a subset of the population in whom there is limited reported data. A secondary objective of this study is to describe patient/ parent anxiety regarding SARS-CoV-2 infection.

## **METHODS**

In this prospective cohort study, immunocompromised patients under 18 years were identified by the clinical teams at 46 hospitals across the UK (Supplementary Online

Appendix B). Children and young people were considered to be immunocompromised if they required an annual influenza vaccination due to their underlying condition or medication, following the immunisation against infectious disease UK government guidance [7].

#### **Patient and Public Involvement**

Study design included patient and public involvement (PPI). Parents of children on immunosuppressive drugs were asked about their willingness to participate in such a study and whether they had any specific questions or anxieties.

Parents and participants were sent age-appropriate patient information sheets and asked to complete an online consent form. If they did not reply after receiving electronic reminders in the following three weeks, they were removed from the study database. Following completion of online consent, participants were sent a weekly online questionnaire based on the International Severe Acute Respiratory and emerging Infections Consortium (ISARIC) and WHO COVID-19 Case Report Form [8], with questions also incorporating PPI feedback (Supplementary Online Appendix C: Weekly questionnaire). Depending on the age and ability of the child or young person, questionnaires were either completed by the participant or their parent or carer.

From 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020, information was collected regarding symptom presentation, test results, NHS attendance, hospital admission and the effects of COVID-19 on daily life. Loss of smell or taste was added to the weekly questionnaire at week 14 following emerging evidence for anosmia and ageusia in COVID-19 disease. Study participants were advised that the study did not replace normal healthcare provision and were asked to follow government guidance and seek medical advice via emergency health care providers or the child's normal clinical team if concerns about symptoms arose. The study team did not provide advice on SARS-CoV-2 testing. During the study period testing was limited to patients possibly needing admission in the UK (due to national testing capacity).

Study recruitment closed on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Data collection is ongoing and follow up is planned to continue for 12 months. The study was approved by the Leeds NHS Research Ethics Committee (IRAS 281544).

#### Statistical Analysis

Longitudinal data were collected as participants were asked to complete a weekly online questionnaire for one year. We report data up to the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020, when lockdown restrictions in the UK were eased. All questionnaire data collected over this 16 week study period were included in the analysis, although some participants did not complete the questionnaire every week. Participants who did not complete any questionnaires were not included in the analysis. Analysis assumed that the date of entry into the study was the date of the first completed questionnaire. Data were cleaned and analysed every week and a top level report provided to NHS England and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH). The descriptive statistics presented in this paper were analysed using SAS9.4. Spearman correlation was used to analyse the correlation between anxiety scores and number of symptoms. N.C.

## RESULTS

Recruitment increased over the 16 week study period (Figure 1). By week 16. 1490 eligible patients or their parents had consented. Weekly online questionnaire response rate varied between 74% and 100% (Figure 1). The median age of participants was 11 years (range 0 – 18 years). 54.5% of participants were female. Baseline characteristics of participants are shown in Table 1. When participants had more than one diagnosis, the primary diagnosis is reported.

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|  | Male        | Female      | Total       |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | n (%)       | n (%)       | n (%)       |
| Primary diagnosis:                             |             |             |             |
| Juvenile idiopathic arthritis                  | 140 (20.6%) | 314 (38.7%) | 454 (30.5%) |
| Other rheumatological diagnoses                | 48 (7.1%)   | 110 (13.6%) | 158 (10.6%) |
| Immunodeficiency disorders                     | 64 (9.4%)   | 53 (6.5%)   | 117 (7.9%)  |
| Solid organ or bone marrow transplant          | 53 (7.8%)   | 36 (4.4%)   | 89 (6.0%)   |
| Renal disease                                  | 56 (8.2%)   | 27 (3.3%)   | 83 (5.6%)   |
| Malignant haematology & oncological diagnoses  | 51 (7.5%)   | 28 (3.5%)   | 79 (5.3%)   |
| Airways disease                                | 29 (4.3%)   | 24 (3.0%)   | 53 (3.6%)   |
| Inflammatory bowel disease                     | 29 (4.3%)   | 23 (2.8%)   | 52 (3.5%)   |
| Diabetes                                       | 30 (4.4%)   | 19 (2.3%)   | 49 (3.3%)   |
| Neurological diagnoses                         | 20 (2.9%)   | 10 (1.2%)   | 30 (2.0%)   |
| Other gastroenterology & hepatology diagnoses  | 7 (1.0%)    | 12 (1.5%)   | 19 (1.3%)   |
| Other  | 26 (3.8%)   | 34 (4.2%)   | 60 (4.0%)   |
| Missing diagnosis                              | 126 (18.6%) | 121 (14.9%) | 247 (16.6%) |
| Total  | 679 (45.6%) | 811 (54.4%) | 1490 (100%  |
| Medication:                                    |             |             |             |
| Methotrexate                                   | 137 (20.2%) | 249 (30.7%) | 386 (25.9%) |
| Anti-TNF therapy                               | 101 (14.9%) | 202 (24.9%) | 303 (20.3%) |
| Corticosteroids                                | 134 (19.7%) | 115 (14.2%) | 249 (16.7%) |
| Other antibiotics and antivirals               | 105 (15.5%) | 63 (7.8%)   | 168 (11.3%) |
| Calcineurin inhibitors                         | 87 (12.8%)  | 71 (8.8%)   | 158 (10.6%) |
| Mycophenolate mofetil (MMF)                    | 64 (9.4%)   | 67 (8.3%)   | 131 (8.8%)  |
| Other disease modifying anti-rheumatic drugs   | 56 (8.2%)   | 53 (6.5%)   | 109 (7.3%)  |
| Inhalers                                       | 46 (6.8%)   | 40 (4.9%)   | 86 (5.8%)   |
| Insulin  | 46 (6.8%)   | 36 (4.4%)   | 82 (5.5%)   |
| Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) | 21 (3.1%)   | 51 (6.3%)   | 72 (4.8%)   |
| Chemotherapy                                   | 41 (6.0%)   | 27 (3.3%)   | 68 (4.6%)   |
| Azithromycin                                   | 40 (5.9%)   | 28 (3.5%)   | 68 (4.6%)   |
| Hydroxychloroquine                             | 11 (1.6%)   | 44 (5.4%)   | 55 (3.7%)   |
| Tocilizumab                                    | 16 (2.4%)   | 33 (4.1%)   | 49 (3.3%)   |
| Intravenous or subcutaneous immunoglobulin     | 21 (3.1%)   | 17 (2.1%)   | 38 (2.6%)   |
| Other biologic drugs                           | 14 (2.1%)   | 22 (2.7%)   | 36 (2.4%)   |

### Table 1: Baseline characteristics: primary diagnosis and medication

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Information regarding primary diagnosis was incomplete for 247 (16.6%) participants. Of 1368 participants who completed at least one weekly online questionnaire, 922 (67.4%) reported at least one symptom consistent with suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection over the study period. 476 (34.8%) reported 3 or more simultaneous symptoms. The most frequently reported symptoms included joint pain, fatigue, headache, nausea and muscle pain. Symptoms according to primary diagnosis and medication can be found in Supplementary Online Appendix D.

Figure 2a depicts the relationship between cough, fever, sore throat and shortness of breath, with some degree of overlap between these symptoms. The frequency of cough, blocked nose and sore throat decreased in both airways and non-airways disease participants over the study period (Figure 2b and 2c). This trend was more marked in those with airways disease (Figure 2b).

53 participants (3.9%) visited primary or secondary NHS care due to concerns about SARS-CoV-2 infection, of whom 47 (88.7%) reported symptoms. Two participants were admitted to hospital. 135 participants (9.9%) underwent a viral PCR test for SARS-CoV-2 infection. 110 of these reported symptoms. None of the study participants tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection. 137 participants had their medication suspended or changed during the study period, due to assumed risk of SARS-CoV-2 disease. Of these 117 (85.4%) reported symptoms.

Figure 3a illustrates relatively static low school attendance over the 16 week study period, during which schools were closed to the majority of children. 62% of questionnaire respondents reported high levels of anxiety (scores of 7 to 10 out of 10) at the start of the study, with anxiety levels remaining extremely high throughout (Figure 3b). With the easing of lockdown restrictions in July 2020, anxiety themes included concerns regarding the severity of SARS-CoV-2 infection, the re-opening of schools and a second wave of infection. The correlation between number of symptoms and anxiety was not significant using cross-sectional Spearman correlation.

## DISCUSSION

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While 922 (67.4%) participants reported one or more symptoms consistent with suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection, of the 110 who underwent viral PCR testing, none tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, suggesting an absence of symptom specificity [2]. Symptoms of SARS-CoV-2 infection overlap with those of chronic disease exacerbations and medication side-effects. Joint pain was frequently reported, reflecting the contribution of rheumatological diagnoses to the cohort. This suggests symptom-based screening for SARS-CoV-2 infection may not be helpful in these immunocompromised children and young people.

We are unable to comment on the incidence rate of SARS-CoV-2 infection in this cohort without comprehensive serological data. However, we can assume that only mild cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection were missed as none of these 'high risk' patients had severe enough SARS-CoV-2 infection requiring hospital admission. This study period encompassed the peak in confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases in the UK, during which time many immunocompromised children were shielding. Either shielding measures were effective, or similar to healthy children, immunocompromised children are less affected by SARS-CoV-2 infection than adults [9, 10].

In the UK, of the 651 children with laboratory confirmed SARS-CoV-2, between 17<sup>th</sup> January and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020, only 48 (8%) had a haematological, oncological or immunological co-morbidity [11]. There was no significant difference in the presenting symptoms of the immunocompromised compared to the rest of the paediatric cohort (O. Swann, personal communication). Limited data for paediatric oncology, liver transplant, chronic kidney disease (CKD) and inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) patients is reassuring, with few cases of mostly mild infection reported [12-16]. While some adult patients on immunosuppressive biologics may not be at higher risk of severe disease [17], other analyses suggest that adults with malignancy, autoimmune conditions, asplenia and other immunosuppressive conditions are at greater risk of COVID-19 related death [18]. However, the contribution of co-morbidity to SARS-CoV-2 disease severity in children remains unclear due to the low prevalence of severe disease in this age group [19].

The frequency of cough, blocked nose and sore throat decreased in both airways and non-airways disease participants over the study period. This may suggest that shielding measures may have been effective in reducing the transmission of respiratory viruses in these children, similar to other studies [20]. However, this observation is unsupported by serological data.

 53 participants sought NHS attention and only two were admitted to hospital, in keeping with reports that the proportion of vulnerable paediatric inpatients has significantly decreased during the pandemic [21]. This implies that either families were successfully managing minor or chronic symptoms at home, or they were not accessing healthcare appropriately. A decrease in attendances to Paediatric Emergency Departments has been reported in the UK following the start of the pandemic [22]. While concerns were initially raised about delayed presentations of serious illness [23], a formal survey found this to be rare [24]. It may also be possible that the reduction in "normal" upper and lower respiratory infection transmission prevented by self-isolation and increased hand hygiene, during the lockdown period has had the indirect effect of also reducing other reported minor or chronic symptoms in this cohort.

More than 50% of questionnaire respondents reported high levels of anxiety at the start of the study, similar to national figures [25]. However, anxiety scores remained extremely high during this study, whereas average anxiety scores nationally reduced from 5.2 to 4.0 out of 10 by May 2020 [25]. With the advice to stop shielding from 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020, the planned re-opening of schools in September 2020 and uncertainty regarding a second wave of infection, these families require up-to-date, evidence-based guidance on the need for specific precautionary measures. If such evidence is not available, a holistic, child-centred approach must be taken by clinicians on a case by case basis [6].

Study limitations include patient or parent reported information, unverified by clinical review. Inconsistent completion of weekly questionnaires over the study period may have affected the data, although a median response rate of 83% (range 74% to 100%) is high for a questionnaire study. Over-reporting of symptoms may have occurred particularly as anxiety levels were high. Under-reporting of symptoms may

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also have occurred due to the nature of the study, which required weekly participation. Only 110 out of 922 participants with symptoms underwent viral PCR testing, therefore some cases of mild SARS-CoV-2 infection may have been missed. During the initial weeks of the outbreak, viral PCR tests were only performed if a child was admitted to hospital. Although all subspecialties in each hospital were approached to take part in the study, not all decided to participate. This may have caused bias in the composition of the cohort.

Information on SARS-CoV-2 prevalence, progression and outcomes in children is still limited, with the results of national surveillance programmes awaited. Whether children with pre-existing co-morbidities are more likely to contract SARS-CoV-2 infection remains unclear. Further research is warranted to identify risk factors for severe infection in children and young people to aid health service planning, improve public health messaging and minimise unforeseen consequences of imposed restrictions on child health and wellbeing.

In conclusion, this is the first study to prospectively observe a cohort of immunocompromised paediatric patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. We report results from a large cohort of 1490 patients over 16 weeks. Although symptoms indicative of SARS-CoV-2 infection were common in this cohort of immunocompromised children and young people, none of these 'high risk' patients had severe SARS-CoV-2 infection requiring hospital admission. While this observation is reassuring, clinicians need to remain cautious when counselling families, as symptom-based screening to facilitate the early detection of SARS-CoV-2 infection may not be helpful. In addition these patients/parents remain very anxious, highlighting the pressing need to clearly define and communicate SARS-CoV-2 risk in children and young people.

**Contributorship statement**: RP, HdG and SF planned the study. RP, MS and HdG managed the study and contributed to all parts of the manuscript. LM managed the patient data. CD provided statistical analysis. AL, DG, DO, JL and SF contributed to managing the study and the writing, reviewing and editing of the manuscript. All members of the ImmunoCOVID group assisted with patient recruitment.

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**Ethics statement:** Parental consent has been obtained for all participants under the age of 16 years.

**Competing interests**: All authors have completed the *ICMJE* uniform disclosure form at www.icmje.org/coi\_disclosure.pdf. HdG received grant funding from the BPAIIG for the submitted work; there are no other relationships or activities that could appear to have influenced the submitted work.

**Dissemination declaration:** We plan to disseminate the results to study participants and their parents.

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**Data sharing statement:** Research data may be made available upon reasonable request, wherever legally and ethically possible.

**Transparency declaration:** The Corresponding Author affirms that the manuscript is an honest, accurate and transparent account of the study being reported. No important aspects of the study have been omitted. Any discrepancies from the study as planned have been explained.

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Figure 1: Study recruitment and weekly questionnaire response rate

Figure 2a: Venn diagram depicting the association between fever, cough, shortness of breath and sore throat during the study period

Figure 2b: Reported symptoms in airways disease patients over time

Figure 2c: Reported symptoms in non-airways disease patients over time

Figure 3a: Reported school attendance over time

#### Figure 3b: Reported anxiety levels over time

Anxiety scores out of 10 categorised into mild (1 to 3), moderate (4 to 6) and severe (7 to 10) anxiety, with a score of 0 indicating no anxiety.

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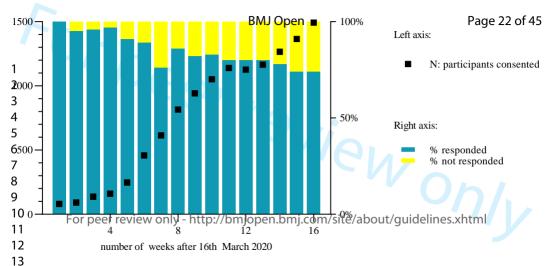
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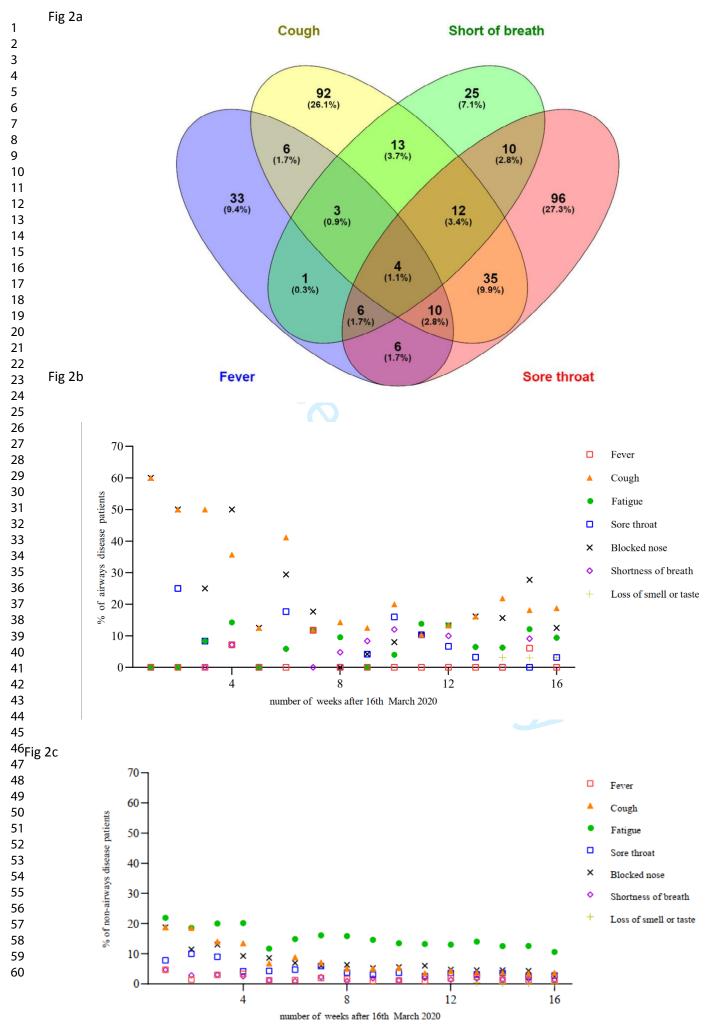
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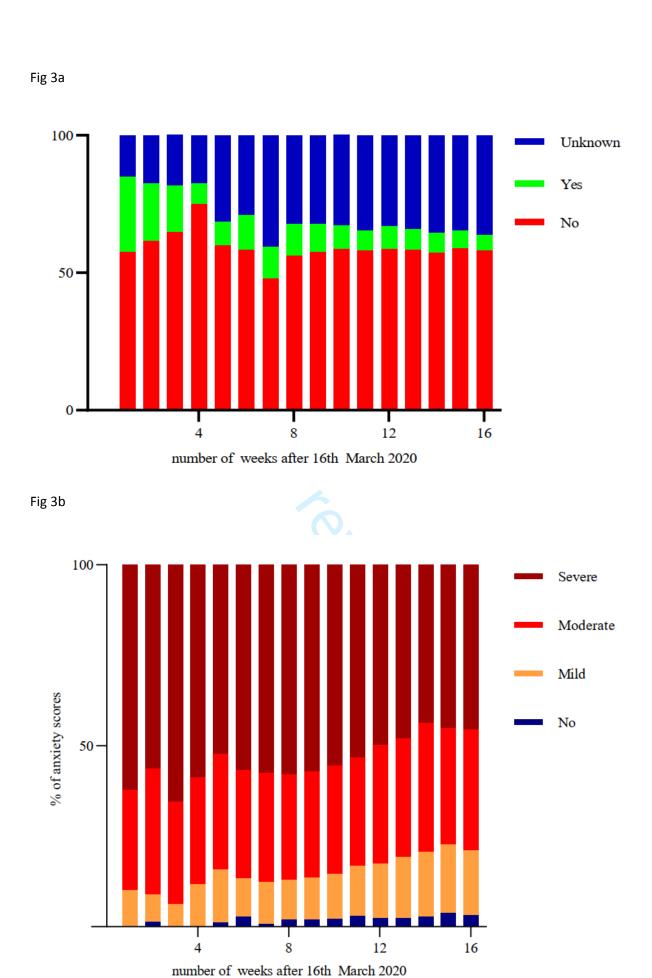


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| Dr       |                                       | Consultant Paediatric                               |  |   |
|          |                                       |   |  |   |
| Dr<br>Dr | Vinay Shivamurthy                     | Rheumatology  | Evelina London Children's Hospital   | Westminster Bridge Road London SE1 7EH  |
|          | Vinay Shivamurthy<br>Theresa Simangan | Rheumatology<br>Senior Paediatric<br>Research Nurse | Evelina London Children's Hospital<br>Whipps Cross University Hospital, London | Westminster Bridge Road London SE1 7EH<br>Whipps Cross Road, Leytonstone, London, E11 1NR |

|       | Jaspal Singh        | Paediatric Neurology       | Link and the Line of the Development on NULO France defines. The st     | Transac Dead Death and an OO40 0)/D                                       |
|-------|---------------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| Dr    | e sep su e sugu     | Consultant                 | University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust                    | Tremona Road, Southampton, SO16 6YD                                       |
|       |                     | Paediatric                 |   |   |
| M     | Comonthe Croall     | Rheumatology Clinical      | Liniversity Linemited Courthematers NILIC Forwardsting Trust            | Transas Dead, Cauthemater CO10 CV/D                                       |
| Mrs   | Samantha Small      | Nurse Specialist           | University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust                    | Tremona Road, Southampton SO16 6YD  |
|       |                     |                            | Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust,         |   |
|       |                     | Ose sulland Developing     | Population, Policy & Practice Research & Teaching Department,           | One of Oregonal Oregonal Longian WOAN All 100 Optilized Oregonal Longian  |
| D     | Amagnat Lala Calaba | Consultant Paediatric      | University College London Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health | Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JH, 30 Guilford Street, London WC1N 1EH |
| Dr    | Ameenat Lola Solebo | Ophthalmology              |   |   |
|       |                     | Consultant in Transplant   |   |   |
| D     | Holon Spansor       | and Respiratory            | Creat Ormand Street Lloanital for Children NULS Foundation Trust        | Creat Ormand Street Landon WC(1) 2111                                     |
| Dr    | Helen Spencer       | Medicine                   | Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust          | Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JH                                      |
| Dr    | Isaac Staff         | Foundation Doctor          | James Paget University Hospital   | Lowestoft Rd, Gorleston, NR31 6LA   |
| Dr    | Karnam Sugumar      | Consultant Paediatrician   | Department of Child Health, Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trusts    | Royal Preston Hospital, Sharoe Green Lane, Preston PR2 9HT                |
|       |                     | Clinical research          | NIHR Southampton Clinical Research Facility, University Hospital        |   |
| Ms    | Zoe Swash           | coordinator                | Southampton NHS Foundation Trust  | Tremona Road, Southampton, SO16 6YD                                       |
|       |                     | Consultant Paediatric      |   |   |
| Dr    | Sneha Tandon        | Haematologist              | University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust                    | Tremona Road, Southampton SO16 6YD  |
|       |                     | Consultant in infectious   |   |   |
|       |                     | diseases and               |   |   |
| Dr    | Marc Tebruegge      | immunology                 | Evelina London Children's Hospital                                      | Westminster Bridge Road London SE1 7EH                                    |
| Ms    | Evelyn Thomson      | Research Nurse             | Great North Children's Hospital   | Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4LP                    |
| Dr    | Mark Tighe          | Consultant Paediatrician   | Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust                                     | Longfleet Rd, Poole, BH15 2JB   |
|       |                     | Consultant i accilattician |   | Staffordshire Children's Hospital at Royal Stoke, Newcastle Road, Stoke o |
| Mrs   | Joanne Tomlinson    | Research Nurse             | University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust                        | Trent, ST4 6QG  |
| iiiio |                     | Consultant Paediatric      |   |   |
| Dr    | Nicola Trevelyan    | Diabetologist              | University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust                    | Tremona Road, Southampton, SO16 6YD                                       |
|       |                     | Paediatric Neurology       |   |   |
| Dr    | Brigitte Vollmer    | Consultant                 | University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust                    | Tremona Road, Southampton, SO16 6YD                                       |
|       |                     |                            | PCD Centre, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust,       |   |
|       |                     |                            | School of Clinical and Experimental Sciences, Faculty of Medicine and   |   |
|       |                     |                            | Institute for Life Sciences, University of Southampton, NIHR            |   |
|       |                     | Paediatric Respiratory     | Southampton Biomedical Research Centre, University Hospital             |   |
| Dr    | Woolf Walker        | Consultant                 | Southampton NHS Foundation Trust  | Tremona Road, Southampton SO16 6YD  |
|       |                     | Consultant Paediatric      |   |   |
| Dr    | Jo Walsh            | Rheumatology               | Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow                                     | 345 Govan Rd, Glasgow G51 4TF   |
|       |                     | Lead Research Nurse –      |   |   |
| Ms    | Rachel Wane         | Children's Team            | Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust                        | Duckworth Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD9 6RJ                         |
|       |                     | Paediatric Neurology       | Neurology Dept, Birmingham Children's Hospital, Birmingham              |   |
| Dr    | Evangeline Wassmer  | Consultant                 | Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust                             | Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham B4 6NH  |
|       |                     | Paediatric Research        |   |   |
| Mrs   | Elizabeth Waxman    | Nurse Manager              | Glasgow Clinical Research Facility                                      | 345 Govan Rd, Glasgow G51 4TF   |
|       |                     | y y                        | Infection, Immunity and Inflammation Research & Teaching                |   |
|       |                     |                            | Department, University College London Great Ormond Street Institute     |   |
|       |                     |                            | of Child Health, Paediatric Rheumatology, Great Ormond Street           |   |
|       |                     |                            | Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, NIHR Great Ormond Street Hospital        |   |
|       |                     |                            | Biomedical Research Centre, Arthritis Research UK Centre for            |   |
|       |                     | Consultant Paediatric      | Adolescent Rheumatology, GOS Institute of Child Health, University      | 30 Guilford Street, London, WC1N 1EH, Great Ormond Street, London         |
| Prof  | Lucy R Wedderburn   | Rheumatology               | College London  | WC1N 3JH  |
|       |                     | Paediatric and             |   |   |
|       |                     | Adolescent Research        |   |   |
| Mrs   | Lucy Wellings       | Nurse                      | University College London NHS Foundation Trust                          | 3rd Floor Central, 250 Euston Road, London, NW1 2PG                       |

| Dr  | Andrea Whitney      | Paediatric Neurology<br>Consultant                 | University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust   | Tremona Road, Southampton, SO16 6YD                             |
|-----|---------------------|--|--|---|
|     |                     | Consultant Paediatric                              | Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust and Imperial College   |   |
| Dr  | Elizabeth Whittaker | Infectious Diseases                                | London. Children's Clinical Research Facility  | 2nd Floor Cambridge Wing, Norfolk Place, London W2 1NY          |
|     |                     | Paediatric Research                                | Nottingham Children's Hospital, Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham                                   |   |
| s   | Rachel Wiffen       | Practitioner                                       | University Hospitals NHS Trust   | Derby Road, Nottingham, NG72UH                                  |
| r   | Matthew Wilkins     | Clinical research coordinator                      | NIHR Southampton Clinical Research Facility, University Hospital<br>Southampton NHS Foundation Trust | Tremona Road, Southampton SO16 6YD                              |
| S   | Jessica Williams    | Data Manager                                       | Great North Children's Hospital  | Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4LP          |
| r   | Mark Wood           | Consultant Paediatric<br>Rheumatology              | Leeds Children Hospital  | Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Trust, Great George Street, LS1 3EX |
| rs  | Sophie Wool         | Research Nurse                                     | Paediatric Oncology and Haematology, Cambridge University Hospitals<br>NHS Foundation Trust          | Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ                                  |
| ls  | Suzannah Wright     | Project Manager                                    | Paediatric Infectious Diseases Research Group, St George's,<br>University of London                  | Cranmer Terrace, London, SW17 0RE                               |
| Irs | Wing Han Wu         | Clinical Research<br>Coordinator                   | Centre for Adolescent Rheumatology Versus Arthritis, University<br>College London                    | 3rd Floor Central, 250 Euston Road, London, NW1 2PG             |
| ls  | Caroline Youle      | Respiratory Nurse<br>Specialist/ Research<br>Nurse | Nottingham Children's Hospital, Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham<br>University Hospitals NHS Trust | Derby Road, Nottingham, NG72UH                                  |
|     |                     |  | Nottingham Children's Hospital, Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham<br>University Hospitals NHS Trust |   |
|     |                     |  |  |   |
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#### **Appendix B: Participating Centres**

| University Hospital Southampton<br>John Radcilife Hospital Oxford         163         10.99           John Radcilife Hospital Oxford         26         1.75           Royal Manchester Children's Hospital         145         9.78           Cardiff and Vale University Health Board         35         2.36           Nottingham Children's Hospital         169         11.40           Leeds General Infirmary Children's Hospital         169         11.40           Leeds General Infirmary Children's Hospital         12         0.81           Aldre Hey Children's Hospital         118         1.21           Bradford Teaching Hospital         176         11.87           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         168         3.78           Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow         57         3.84           Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow         57         3.84           Royal Hospital Forsital NHS Trust         35         2.36           Northerm Manchester General Hospital         4         0.27           Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridg         49         3.30           Swansea Bay University Health Board         2         0.13           Ayrshire and Arran Health Board         2         0.31 | Participating centre                          | Number of Patients Recruited | %     |
|--|---|------------------------------|-------|
| Royal Manchester Children's Hospital         89         6.00           Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital         145         9.78           Cardiff and Vale University Health Board         35         2.36           Nottingham Children's Hospital         47         3.17           Great North Children's Hospital         169         11.40           Leeds General Infirmary Children's Hospital         18         1.21           Bradford Teaching Hospital         176         11.87           Alder Hey Children's Hospital         176         11.87           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         66         3.78           Royal Hospital for Children Clasgow         57         3.84           Royal Hospital for Children Shospital         4         0.27           Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge         49         3.30      <                  | University Hospital Southampton               | 163                          | 10.99 |
| Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital         145         9.78           Cardiff and Vale University Health Board         35         2.36           Nottingham Children's Hospital         169         11.40           Great North Children's Hospital         168         121           Bradford Teaching Hospital         122         0.81           Alder Hey Children's Hospital         176         1.87           Great Ormod Street Hospital         176         3.77           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         66         3.78           Royal Hospital for Schldren Glasgow         57         3.84           Royal Hospital Coventry and Wanvickshire         23         1.55           East Lancashire Hospital NPS Trust         3.30         3.30           Swansea Bay University Hospital Combridge         49         3.20           Northern Manchester General Hospital         4         0.27           Nortolk and Norwich University Hospital         2         0.13           Ayrshire and Arran Health Board         4         0.27           Nortolk and Norwich University Hospital         2         0.13           Jarmes Paget University Hospital         23         1.55                               | John Radcliffe Hospital Oxford                | 26                           | 1.75  |
| Cardiff and Vale University Health Board         35         2.36           Nottingham Children's Hospital         47         3.17           Great North Children's Hospital         169         11.40           Leeds General Infirmary Children's Hospital         18         1.21           Bradford Teaching Hospital         176         11.87           Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool         42         2.83           Great Ormond Street Hospital         176         11.87           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         56         3.78           Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh         18         1.21           University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire         23         1.55           East Lancashire Hospital NHS Trust         35         2.36           Northern Manchester General Hospital         4         0.27           Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge         49         3.30           Swansea Bay University Hospital         20         0.13           Salisbury NHS Trust         6         0.40           University College London Hospitals         5         5.034           James Paget University Hospital         23         1.55   | Royal Manchester Children's Hospital          | 89                           | 6.00  |
| Nottingham Children's Hospital         47         3.17           Great North Children's Hospital         169         11.40           Leeds General Infirmary Children's Hospital         12         0.81           Bradford Teaching Hospital         12         0.81           Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool         42         2.83           Great Ormond Street Hospital         176         11.87           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         56         3.78           Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh         18         1.21           University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire         23         1.55           East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust         35         2.36           Northern Manchester General Hospital         4         0.27           Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge         49         3.30           Swansea Bay University Hospital         2         0.13           Addenbrooke's Hospital Pristol         2         0.13           Morfolk and Norwich University Hospital         2         0.13           Marsden Trust         6         0.40           University College London Hospitals         5         0.34           James Paget U                              | Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital    | 145                          | 9.78  |
| Great North Children's Hospital         169         11.40           Leeds General Infirmary Children's Hospital         18         1.21           Bradford Teaching Hospital         12         0.81           Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool         42         2.83           Great Ormond Street Hospital         176         11.87           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         56         3.78           Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow         57         3.84           Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh         18         1.21           University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire         23         1.55           East Lancashire Hospital Ambridge         49         3.30           Swansea Bay University Health Board         2         0.13           Adsenbrooke's Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire         0.13         0.40           University College London Hospital         23         1.55           Swansea Bay University Hospital         23         1.55           Marken Drowich University Hospital         23         1.55           Worfolk and Norwich University Hospital         23         1.55           Kent Community Health         0         0.67                   | Cardiff and Vale University Health Board      | 35                           | 2.36  |
| Leeds General Infirmary Children's Hospital         18         1.21           Bradford Teaching Hospital         12         0.81           Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool         42         2.83           Great Ormond Street Hospital         176         11.87           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         66         3.78           Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow         57         3.84           Royal Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire         23         1.55           East Lancashire Hospital NHS Trust         35         2.36           Northern Manchester General Hospital         4         0.27           Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge         49         3.30           Swansea Bay University Health Board         4         0.27           Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital         2         0.13           Salisbury NHS Trust         6         0.40           University College London Hospitals         5         0.34           James Paget University Hospital         23         1.55           Kent Community Health         0         0.67           Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital         25         1.69           Marsden Trust  | Nottingham Children's Hospital                | 47                           | 3.17  |
| Bradford Teaching Hospital120.81Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool422.83Great Ormond Street Hospital17611.87St Georges Hospital London302.02Sheffield Children's Hospital663.78Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow573.84Royal Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire231.55East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust352.36Northern Manchester General Hospital40.27Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board40.27Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital130.88Tayside Children's Hospital151.01Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital281.89Negal Alexandra Children's Hospital281.89NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital281.89Negal Alexandra Children's Hospital281.89Negal Alexandra Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74  | Great North Children's Hospital               | 169                          | 11.40 |
| Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool         42         2.83           Great Ormond Street Hospital         176         11.87           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         56         3.78           Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow         57         3.84           Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh         18         1.21           University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire         23         1.55           East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust         35         2.36           Northern Manchester General Hospital         4         0.27           Addenbrooke's Hospital Eabrid         2         0.13           Swansea Bay University Health Board         2         0.13           Swansea Bay University Hospital         2         0.13           Salisbury NHS Trust         6         0.40           University College London Hospitals         5         0.34           James Paget University Hospital         2         1.13           Kent Community Health         10         0.67           Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital         1         1.42           Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital         2         1.69           Mayaid Alexandra Child                              | Leeds General Infirmary Children's Hospital   | 18                           | 1.21  |
| Great Ormond Street Hospital         176         11.87           St Georges Hospital London         30         2.02           Sheffield Children's Hospital         56         3.78           Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow         57         3.84           Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh         18         1.21           University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire         23         1.55           East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust         35         2.36           Northern Manchester General Hospital         4         0.27           Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge         49         3.30           Swansea Bay University Health Board         2         0.13           Ayrshire and Arran Health Board         4         0.27           Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital         2         0.13           Salisbury NHS Trust         6         0.40           University College London Hospitals         5         0.34           James Paget University Hospital         23         1.55           Kent Community Health         10         0.67           Royal Marsden Trust         6         0.40           Bristol Royal Hospital for Children         21         1.42           Royal Alexandra Children's Hospit                              | Bradford Teaching Hospital                    | 12                           | 0.81  |
| St Georges Hospital London302.02Sheffield Children's Hospital563.78Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow573.84Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh181.21University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire231.55East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust352.36Northern Manchester General Hospital40.27Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health00.67Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital251.69Norlol Royal Apsital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital20.13St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital <td< td=""><td>Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool</td><td>42</td><td>2.83</td></td<>   | Alder Hey Children's Hospital Liverpool       | 42                           | 2.83  |
| Sheffield Children's Hospital563.78Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow573.84Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh181.21University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire231.55East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust352.36Northern Manchester General Hospital40.27Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital130.88Tayside Children's Hospital151.01Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital281.89NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital281.89NHS Forth Valley20.13St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital210.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital211.42University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital<   | Great Ormond Street Hospital                  | 176                          | 11.87 |
| Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow573.84Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh181.21University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire231.55East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust352.36Northern Manchester General Hospital40.27Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board40.27Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital130.88Tayside Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital281.89NHS Forth Valley20.13St Marys Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital21.14  | St Georges Hospital London                    | 30                           | 2.02  |
| Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh181.21University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire231.55East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust352.36Northern Manchester General Hospital40.27Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board20.13Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Outiversity College London Hospitals50.34University College London Hospitals50.34University College London Hospitals50.34University College London Hospitals50.40Bristol Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital Brighton130.88Tayside Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital281.89NHS Forth Valley20.13Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55   | Sheffield Children's Hospital                 | 56                           | 3.78  |
| University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire231.55East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust352.36Northern Manchester General Hospital40.27Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital151.01Royal Alexeden Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital221.48Poole Hospital221.48   | Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow           | 57                           | 3.84  |
| East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust352.36Northern Manchester General Hospital40.27Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board40.27Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital Brighton130.88Tayside Children's Hospital151.01Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital281.89MHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital211.48Poole Hospital221.48  | Royal Hospital for Sick Children Edinburgh    | 18                           | 1.21  |
| Northern Manchester General Hospital40.27Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board40.27Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital21.48Poole Hospital21.48   | University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire | 23                           | 1.55  |
| Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge493.30Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board40.27Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital Brighton130.88Tayside Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital21.48Poole Hospital21.48   | East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust           | 35                           | 2.36  |
| Swansea Bay University Health Board20.13Ayrshire and Arran Health Board40.27Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital151.01Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55  | Northern Manchester General Hospital          | 4                            | 0.27  |
| Ayrshire and Arran Health Board40.27Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital130.88Tayside Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital221.48Poole Hospital211.42St Marys College Hospital231.55  | Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge              | 49                           | 3.30  |
| Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital20.13Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital Brighton130.88Tayside Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital221.48Poole Hospital221.48   | Swansea Bay University Health Board           | 2                            | 0.13  |
| Salisbury NHS Trust60.40University College London Hospitals50.34James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital221.48Poole Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55  | Ayrshire and Arran Health Board               | 4                            | 0.27  |
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| James Paget University Hospital231.55Kent Community Health100.67Royal Marsden Trust60.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children211.42Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital Brighton130.88Tayside Children's Hospital151.01Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital251.69NHS Forth Valley20.13Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55   | Salisbury NHS Trust                           | 6                            | 0.40  |
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| Royal Marsden Trust0.40Bristol Royal Hospital for Children21Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital Brighton13Tayside Children's Hospital15Tayside Children's Hospital15Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital25NHS Forth Valley2Royal United Hospitals Bath16Royal London Children's Hospital28Evelina London Children's Hospital28NHS Lanarkshire47University Hospital North Midlands11Other St Marys Hospital London3Lancashire Teaching Hospital22Kings College Hospital22Poole Hospital231.55   | James Paget University Hospital               | 23                           | 1.55  |
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| Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital<br>NHS Forth Valley251.69NHS Forth Valley0.13Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55  | Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital Brighton  | 13                           | 0.88  |
| NHS Forth Valley0.13Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55   | Tayside Children's Hospital                   | 15                           | 1.01  |
| Royal United Hospitals Bath161.08Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55   | Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital            | 25                           | 1.69  |
| Evelina London Children's Hospital281.89NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55  | NHS Forth Valley                              | 2                            | 0.13  |
| NHS Lanarkshire473.17University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55  | Royal United Hospitals Bath                   | 16                           | 1.08  |
| University Hospital North Midlands110.74St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55   | Evelina London Children's Hospital            | 28                           | 1.89  |
| St Marys Hospital London30.20Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55   | NHS Lanarkshire                               | 47                           | 3.17  |
| Lancashire Teaching Hospital20.13Kings College Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55  | University Hospital North Midlands            | 11                           | 0.74  |
| Kings College Hospital221.48Poole Hospital231.55   | St Marys Hospital London                      | 3                            | 0.20  |
| Poole Hospital 23 1.55   | Lancashire Teaching Hospital                  | 2                            | 0.13  |
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| Barts Health NHS Trust 3 0.20  |   | 23                           |       |
|  | Barts Health NHS Trust                        | 3                            | 0.20  |

#### Appendix C: Weekly Questionnaire

|       | n the week beginning xx/xx/xxxx have you experienced any of the following ymptoms?   |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1.1   | I have had no symptoms   | O I have had no symptoms<br>O I have had symptoms  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2   | Measured temperature above 38 °C   | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.1 | If 'Measured temperature above 38<br>°C' is equal to 'Yes' answer this<br>question:<br>Which days did you measure a<br>temperature above 38 °C?  | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |
| 1.2.2 | If 'Measured temperature above 38<br>°C' is equal to 'Yes' answer this<br>question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom? | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.3   | Cough  | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.3.1 | If 'Cough' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience a<br>cough?   | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |
| 1.3.2 | If 'Cough' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?                               | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.4   | Shortness of breath  | O Yes<br>O No  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.4.1 | If 'Shortness of breath' is equal to<br>'Yes' answer this question:<br>Which days did you experience<br>shortness of breath?                     | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> </ul>                   |  |  |  |  |

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| 1.4.2 | If 'Shortness of breath' is equal to                     | O Yes         |
|       | 'Yes' answer this question:                              | O No          |
|       | Have you experienced a worsening of                      |               |
| 4 5   | the above symptom?                                       | O Yes         |
| 1.5   | Sore throat  | O Yes<br>O No |
|       |  |               |
| 1.5.1 | If 'Sore throat' is equal to 'Yes'                       | □ Monday      |
| -     | answer this question:                                    | □ Tuesday     |
|       | Which days did you experience sore                       | □ Wednesday   |
|       | throat?  | □ Thursday    |
|       |  | □ Friday      |
|       |  | Saturday      |
|       |  | □ Sunday      |
| 4.5.0 |  |               |
| 1.5.2 | If 'Sore throat' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question: | O Yes<br>O No |
|       | Have you experienced a worsening of                      |               |
|       | the above symptom?                                       |               |
| 1.6   | Blocked nose   | O Yes         |
|       |  | O No          |
|       |  |               |
| 1.6.1 | If 'Blocked nose' is equal to 'Yes'                      | 🗆 Monday      |
|       | answer this question:                                    | □ Tuesday     |
|       | Which days did you experience blocked                    | □ Wednesday   |
|       | nose?  | □ Thursday    |
|       |  | □ Friday      |
|       | 7  | □ Saturday    |
|       |  | □ Sunday      |
| 1.6.2 | If 'Blocked nose' is equal to 'Yes'                      | O Yes         |
|       | answer this question:                                    | O No          |
|       | Have you experienced a worsening of                      |               |
|       | the above symptom?                                       |               |
| 1.7   | Red eyes   | O Yes         |
|       |  | O No          |
| 1.7.1 | If 'Red eyes' is equal to 'Yes' answer                   | □ Monday      |
|       | this question:   | □ Tuesday     |
|       | Which days did you experience red                        | □ Wednesday   |
|       | eyes?  | □ Thursday    |
|       |  | □ Friday      |
|       |  | □ Saturday    |
|       |  | □ Sunday      |
| 170   | If (Ded every in equal to (Very energy)                  |               |
| 1.7.2 | If 'Red eyes' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:    | O Yes<br>O No |
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| Have you experienced a worsening of  |  |
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| Headache   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| If 'Headache' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience<br>headache?                   | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul>   |
| If 'Headache' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?    | O Yes<br>O No  |
| Joint pain   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| If 'Joint pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience joint<br>pain?               | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul>   |
| If 'Joint pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| Muscle pain  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| If 'Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes'<br>answer this question:<br>Which days did you experience muscle<br>pain?             | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul>   |
| If 'Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes'<br>answer this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom? | O Yes<br>O No  |
| Fatigue  | O Yes<br>O No  |
|  | If 'Headache' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Which days did you experience headache?         If 'Headache' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Have you experienced a worsening of the above symptom?         Joint pain         If 'Joint pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Which days did you experience joint pain?         If 'Joint pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Have you experienced a worsening of the above symptom?         Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Have you experienced a worsening of the above symptom?         Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Which days did you experience muscle pain?         If 'Muscle pain' is equal to 'Yes' answer this question:         Which days did you experience muscle pain? |

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| 1.11.1 | If 'Fatigue' is equal to 'Yes' answer     | 🗆 Monday    |
|        | this question:                            | □ Tuesday   |
|        | Which days did you experience fatigue?    | □ Wednesday |
|        |   | □ Thursday  |
|        |   |             |
|        |   | □ Friday    |
|        |   | □ Saturday  |
|        |   | □ Sunday    |
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| 1.11.2 | If 'Fatigue' is equal to 'Yes' answer     | O Yes       |
|        | this question:                            | O No        |
|        | Have you experienced a worsening of       |             |
|        | the above symptom?                        |             |
| 1.12   | Chills                                    | O Yes       |
|        |   | O No        |
|        |   |             |
| 1.12.1 | If 'Chills' is equal to 'Yes' answer this | Monday      |
|        | question:                                 | □ Tuesday   |
|        | Which days did you experience chills?     | □ Wednesday |
|        |   | □ Thursday  |
|        |   | □ Friday    |
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|        | $\mathbf{N}$                              | □ Saturday  |
|        |   | □ Sunday    |
| 1.12.2 | If 'Chills' is equal to 'Yes' answer this | O Yes       |
| 1.12.2 | question:                                 | O No        |
|        | •   |             |
|        | Have you experienced a worsening of       |             |
| 1.13   | the above symptom?                        | O Yes       |
| 1.13   | Nausea                                    |             |
|        |   | O No        |
| 1.13.1 | If 'Nausea' is equal to 'Yes' answer      | □ Monday    |
|        | this question:                            | □ Tuesday   |
|        | •   |             |
|        | Which days did you experience nausea?     |             |
|        |   | □ Thursday  |
|        |   | □ Friday    |
|        |   | □ Saturday  |
|        |   | □ Sunday    |
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| 1.13.2 | If 'Nausea' is equal to 'Yes' answer      | O Yes       |
|        | this question:                            | O No        |
|        | Have you experienced a worsening of       |             |
|        | the above symptom?                        |             |
| 1.14   | Vomiting                                  | O Yes       |
|        |   | O No        |
|        |   |             |
| 1.14.1 | If 'Vomiting' is equal to 'Yes' answer    | □ Monday    |
|        | this question:                            | 🗆 Tuesday   |
|        | Which days did you experience             | □ Wednesday |
|        | vomiting?                                 | □ Thursday  |
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| 1.14.2 | If 'Vomiting' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?                   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.15   | Diarrhoea   | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.15.1 | If 'Diarrhoea' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Which days did you experience<br>diarrhoea?                                | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |
| 1.15.2 | If 'Diarrhoea' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?                  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.16   | Loss of smell or taste  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.16.1 | If 'Loss of smell or taste' is equal to<br>'Yes' answer this question:<br>Which days did you experience loss of<br>smell or taste?      | <ul> <li>☐ Monday</li> <li>☐ Tuesday</li> <li>☐ Wednesday</li> <li>☐ Thursday</li> <li>☐ Friday</li> <li>☐ Saturday</li> <li>☐ Sunday</li> </ul> |
| 1.16.2 | If 'Loss of smell or taste' is equal to<br>'Yes' answer this question:<br>Have you experienced a worsening of<br>the above symptom?     | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 1.17   | Other symptoms  |  |
| 2.1    | Has your child changed medication this week?  | O Yes<br>O No  |
| 2.1.1  | If 'Has your child changed<br>medication this week?" if equal to<br>'Yes' answer this question: What<br>medication has changed and how? |  |

| 2.2   | Was your child in contact with someone<br>who is diagnosed with or suspected to<br>have coronavirus?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
|-------|--|---|
| 2.3   | Did your child visit the NHS because<br>you were worried about coronavirus<br>infection?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.4   | Did your child have a test for coronavirus?  | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.5   | Did your child have a confirmed diagnosis of coronavirus infection?  | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.6   | Was your child admitted to hospital because of a coronavirus infection?  | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.6.1 | If 'Was your child admitted to<br>hospital because of a coronavirus<br>infection?' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question: When was your child<br>admitted?   | dd-mm-yyyy                                    |
| 2.6.2 | If 'Was your child admitted to<br>hospital because of a coronavirus<br>infection?' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question: How many days was<br>your child admitted?  |   |
| 2.7   | Did you have to self-isolate your child because they had symptoms or because of medical advice related to coronavirus?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.7.1 | If 'Did you have to self-isolate your<br>child because they had symptoms or<br>because of medical advice related to<br>coronavirus?' is equal to 'Yes'<br>answer this question:<br>How many days did you self-isolate your<br>child this week? | □ 1<br>□ 2<br>□ 3<br>□ 4<br>□ 5<br>□ 6<br>□ 7 |
| 2.8   | Were immunosuppressive drugs<br>postponed because of coronavirus<br>infection?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.8.1 | If 'Were immunosuppressive drugs<br>postponed because of coronavirus<br>infection?' is equal to 'Yes' answer<br>this question: How many days did you   | □ 1<br>□ 2<br>□ 3<br>□ 4                      |

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|        |   |   |
|        | postpone the immunosuppressants this week?  | □ 5<br>□ 6<br>□ 7                             |
| 2.9    | Did your child miss any sports or fun<br>activities because of the coronavirus<br>pandemic?   | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.9.1  | If 'Did your child miss any sports or<br>fun activities because of the<br>coronavirus pandemic?' is equal to<br>Yes answer this question: How many<br>activities did your child miss? |   |
| 2.10   | Did your child miss school because of coronavirus infection?  | O Yes<br>O No<br>O Not known                  |
| 2.10.1 | If 'Did your child miss school<br>because of coronavirus infection?' is<br>equal to Yes answer this question:<br>How many days of school did your child<br>miss this week?            | □ 1<br>□ 2<br>□ 3<br>□ 4<br>□ 5<br>□ 6<br>□ 7 |
| 2.11   | On a scale of 0-10, how worried are you<br>about coronavirus affecting your child?<br>(0 = not worried, 10 = extremely<br>worried)  |   |
| 2.12   | Is there anything that you are<br>particularly worried about that you would<br>like to share?   |   |
|        |   |   |
|        |   |   |
|        |   |   |
|        |   |   |
|        |   |   |

## Appendix D:

## Symptom frequency by primary diagnosis

| Symptoms     | JIA<br>(%) | Other<br>rheumatology<br>diagnosis (%) | Airways<br>disease<br>(%) | Immunodeficiency<br>disorder (%) | Diabetes<br>(%) | Solid organ or<br>bone marrow<br>transplant<br>(%) | Nephrotic<br>syndrome<br>(%) | Other<br>kidney<br>disease<br>(%) | IBD<br>(%) | Other<br>gastroenterology<br>and hepatology (%) | Malignant<br>haematology &<br>oncology (%) | Neurology<br>(%) | Other<br>(%) |
|--------------|------------|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|---|--|------------------|--------------|
| Fever        | 1.63       | 0.81                                   | 0.24                      | 0.73                             | 0.16            | 0.41   | 0.08                         | 0.08                              | 0.00       | 0.08  | 0.57                                       | 0.24             | 0.33         |
| Cough        | 4.80       | 1.54                                   | 1.63                      | 1.54                             | 0.24            | 1.46   | 0.57                         | 0.16                              | 0.08       | 0.00  | 0.89                                       | 0.16             | 0.65         |
| SOB          | 1.63       | 0.89                                   | 0.65                      | 0.65                             | 0.08            | 0.08   | 0.16                         | 0.08                              | 0.16       | 0.00  | 0.16                                       | 0.08             | 0.81         |
| Sore throat  | 6.02       | 2.28                                   | 0.98                      | 0.98                             | 0.16            | 0.41   | 0.24                         | 0.24                              | 0.49       | 0.33  | 0.89                                       | 0.33             | 0.89         |
| Blocked nose | 7.48       | 2.60                                   | 1.79                      | 1.30                             | 0.49            | 1.30   | 0.65                         | 0.41                              | 0.73       | 0.08  | 0.57                                       | 0.24             | 1.22         |
| Red eyes     | 4.07       | 2.11                                   | 0.57                      | 1.14                             | 0.49            | 0.41   | 0.49                         | 0.08                              | 0.33       | 0.08  | 0.57                                       | 0.16             | 0.57         |
| Headache     | 11.30      | 4.96                                   | 1.30                      | 2.20                             | 0.98            | 1.54   | 0.65                         | 0.33                              | 0.98       | 0.49  | 1.87                                       | 0.73             | 1.63         |
| Vomiting     | 3.66       | 0.89                                   | 0.33                      | 0.65                             | 0.08            | 0.89   | 0.24                         | 0.24                              | 0.00       | 0.16  | 1.14                                       | 0.08             | 0.98         |
| Diarrhoea    | 4.23       | 1.63                                   | 0.57                      | 1.46                             | 0.49            | 0.81   | 0.33                         | 0.33                              | 0.81       | 0.16  | 0.73                                       | 0.24             | 0.73         |
| Joint pain   | 19.84      | 3.98                                   | 0.24                      | 1.22                             | 0.16            | 1.30   | 0.65                         | 0.24                              | 0.81       | 0.08  | 1.87                                       | 0.41             | 1.06         |
| Muscle pain  | 8.46       | 3.33                                   | 0.57                      | 1.22                             | 0.33            | 1.06   | 0.65                         | 0.24                              | 0.49       | 0.16  | 1.38                                       | 0.33             | 0.81         |
| Fatigue      | 13.98      | 4.07                                   | 1.30                      | 2.60                             | 0.49            | 1.30   | 0.89                         | 0.57                              | 1.30       | 0.49  | 3.25                                       | 0.89             | 1.30         |
| Chills       | 2.11       | 1.06                                   | 0.08                      | 0.49                             | 0.08            | 0.41   | 0.08                         | 0.08                              | 0.24       | 0.16  | 0.33                                       | 0.33             | 0.24         |

Abbreviations: SOB shortness of breath, JIA juvenile idiopathic arthritis, IBD inflammatory bowel disease

## Symptom frequency by medication

| Symptoms      | Methotrexate (%) | Hydroxychloroquine (%) | Other<br>DMARDs (%) | Corticosteroids (%) | Anti-TNF<br>therapy<br>(%) | Tocilizumab (%) | Other<br>biologic drugs<br>(%) | MMF (%) |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Fever         | 4.92             | 9.09                   | 0.92                | 5.62                | 4.62                       | 4.08            | 11.11                          | 5.34    |
| Cough         | 12.44            | 14.55                  | 9.17                | 14.06               | 15.84                      | 4.08            | 8.33                           | 15.27   |
| SOB           | 3.11             | 3.64                   | 1.83                | 6.02                | 4.29                       | 8.16            | 5.56                           | 4.58    |
| Sore throat   | 16.06            | 21.82                  | 18.35               | 11.24               | 18.15                      | 18.37           | 8.33                           | 10.69   |
| Blocked nose  | 19.69            | 25.45                  | 13.76               | 13.65               | 23.76                      | 14.29           | 19.44                          | 17.56   |
| Red eyes      | 12.69            | 10.91                  | 8.26                | 10.44               | 11.55                      | 14.29           | 13.89                          | 6.11    |
| Headache      | 29.27            | 45.45                  | 29.36               | 28.11               | 30.69                      | 28.57           | 27.78                          | 25.19   |
| Vomiting      | 12.18            | 9.09                   | 4.59                | 12.05               | 8.25                       | 12.24           | 8.33                           | 7.63    |
| Diarrhoea     | 9.84             | 10.91                  | 11.93               | 11.65               | 11.88                      | 20.41           | 8.33                           | 12.98   |
| Joint pain    | 43.78            | 43.64                  | 33.03               | 26.91               | 46.20                      | 69.39           | 36.11                          | 22.14   |
| Muscle pain   | 20.98            | 41.82                  | 22.02               | 24.50               | 21.45                      | 30.61           | 25.00                          | 19.08   |
| Fatigue       | 39.12            | 43.64                  | 29.36               | 34.14               | 34.65                      | 40.82           | 38.89                          | 24.43   |
| Chills        | 5.44             | 12.73                  | 5.50                | 7.23                | 6.93                       | 6.12            | 5.56                           | 6.87    |
| Nausea        | 31.09            | 27.27                  | 15.60               | 20.88               | 25.41                      | 26.53           | 16.67                          | 15.27   |
| Loss of smell | 0.52             | 1.82                   | 0.00                | 0.80                | 0.33                       | 0.00            | 0.00                           | 1.53    |

Abbreviations: DMARDs disease modifying anti-rheumatic drugs, MMF mycophenolate mofetil

| Symptoms      | Chemotherapy (%) | Azathioprine (%) | Other antibiotics<br>and antivirals (%) | Tacrolimus (%) | Inhalers (%) | Insulin (%) | NSAIDs (%) | IV or SC IG<br>(%) |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|---|----------------|--------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|
| Fever         | 10.29            | 7.35             | 7.14                                    | 3.80           | 8.14         | 3.66        | 9.72       | 2.63               |
| Cough         | 14.71            | 25.00            | 18.45                                   | 15.19          | 31.40        | 8.54        | 15.28      | 13.16              |
| SOB           | 5.88             | 8.82             | 5.95                                    | 3.16           | 16.28        | 3.66        | 8.33       | 7.89               |
| Sore throat   | 8.82             | 13.24            | 10.71                                   | 6.96           | 18.60        | 7.32        | 13.89      | 0.00               |
| Blocked nose  | 10.29            | 16.18            | 13.69                                   | 14.56          | 36.05        | 9.76        | 25.00      | 10.53              |
| Red eyes      | 10.29            | 8.82             | 9.52                                    | 5.70           | 15.12        | 9.76        | 16.67      | 5.26               |
| Headache      | 27.94            | 32.35            | 20.83                                   | 18.35          | 32.56        | 25.61       | 44.44      | 15.79              |
| Vomiting      | 22.06            | 10.29            | 14.29                                   | 8.86           | 12.79        | 7.32        | 9.72       | 5.26               |
| Diarrhoea     | 14.71            | 10.29            | 13.10                                   | 10.13          | 12.79        | 10.98       | 12.50      | 5.26               |
| Joint pain    | 29.41            | 14.71            | 20.24                                   | 17.09          | 18.60        | 8.54        | 61.11      | 18.42              |
| Muscle pain   | 23.53            | 11.76            | 17.26                                   | 14.56          | 19.77        | 7.32        | 31.94      | 7.89               |
| Fatigue       | 47.06            | 30.88            | 30.36                                   | 18.35          | 30.23        | 17.07       | 54.17      | 18.42              |
| Chills        | 7.35             | 2.94             | 4.17                                    | 3.80           | 6.98         | 1.22        | 11.11      | 0.00               |
| Nausea        | 30.88            | 19.12            | 17.86                                   | 12.66          | 20.93        | 10.98       | 27.78      | 10.53              |
| Loss of smell | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00                                    | 1.27           | 1.16         | 0.00        | 4.17       | 0.00               |

Abbreviations: NSAIDs non-steroid anti-inflammatory drugs, IV intravenous, SC subcutaneous, IG immunoglobulin

#### STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of cohort studies

|                        | Item<br>No | Recommendation  | Page<br>No |
|------------------------|------------|---|------------|
| Title and abstract     | 1          | (a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the       | 2          |
|                        |            | abstract  |            |
|                        |            | (b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was         | 2          |
|                        |            | done and what was found   |            |
| Introduction           |            |   |            |
| Background/rationale   | 2          | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being         | 4          |
|                        |            | reported  |            |
| Objectives             | 3          | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses                    | 4          |
| Methods                |            |   |            |
| Study design           | 4          | Present key elements of study design early in the paper                             | 4-6        |
| Setting                | 5          | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of           | 4-6        |
|                        |            | recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection                               |            |
| Participants           | 6          | (a) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of      | 4-6        |
|                        |            | participants. Describe methods of follow-up   |            |
|                        |            | (b) For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and           |            |
|                        |            | unexposed   |            |
| Variables              | 7          | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and      | 4-6        |
|                        |            | effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable                           |            |
| Data sources/          | 8*         | For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of       | 4-6        |
| measurement            |            | assessment (measurement). Describe comparability of assessment methods if           |            |
|                        |            | there is more than one group  |            |
| Bias                   | 9          | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias                           | 4-6        |
| Study size             | 10         | Explain how the study size was arrived at   | 4-6        |
| Quantitative variables | 11         | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable,     | 4-6        |
|                        |            | describe which groupings were chosen and why  |            |
| Statistical methods    | 12         | (a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for           | 4-6        |
|                        |            | confounding   |            |
|                        |            | (b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions                 |            |
|                        |            | (c) Explain how missing data were addressed   |            |
|                        |            | (d) If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed                      |            |
|                        |            | ( <u>e</u> ) Describe any sensitivity analyses                                      |            |
| Results                |            |   |            |
| Participants           | 13*        | (a) Report numbers of individuals at each stage of study—eg numbers potentially     | 6          |
|                        |            | eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study,      |            |
|                        |            | completing follow-up, and analysed  |            |
|                        |            | (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage                                |            |
|                        |            | (c) Consider use of a flow diagram  |            |
| Descriptive data       | 14*        | (a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social)   | 6-8        |
|                        |            | and information on exposures and potential confounders                              |            |
|                        |            | (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest |            |
|                        |            | (c) Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)                         |            |
|                        |            | Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time                      | 6-8        |

| Main results     | 16 | (a) Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-adjusted estimates and their                                 | 6 |
|------------------|----|---|---|
|                  |    | precision (eg, 95% confidence interval). Make clear which confounders were adjusted for                                   |   |
|                  |    | and why they were included  |   |
|                  |    | (b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized   |   |
|                  |    | ( <i>c</i> ) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period |   |
| Other analyses   | 17 | Report other analyses done-eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity                                     | ( |
|                  |    | analyses  |   |
| Discussion       |    |   |   |
| Key results      | 18 | Summarise key results with reference to study objectives  | 8 |
| Limitations      | 19 | Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision.                           | 8 |
|                  |    | Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias  |   |
| Interpretation   | 20 | Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations,                                    | 1 |
|                  |    | multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence                                       |   |
| Generalisability | 21 | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results   | 1 |
| Other informati  | on |   |   |
| Funding          | 22 | Give the source of funding and the role of the funders for the present study and, if                                      | 1 |
|                  |    | applicable, for the original study on which the present article is based  |   |

\*Give information separately for exposed and unexposed groups.

Note: An Explanation and Elaboration article discusses each checklist item and gives methodological background and published examples of transparent reporting. The STROBE checklist is best used in conjunction with this article (freely available on the Web sites of PLoS Medicine at http://www.plosmedicine.org/, Annals of Internal Medicine at http://www.annals.org/, and Epidemiology at http://www.epidem.com/). Information on the STROBE Initiative is available at http://www.strobe-statement.org.