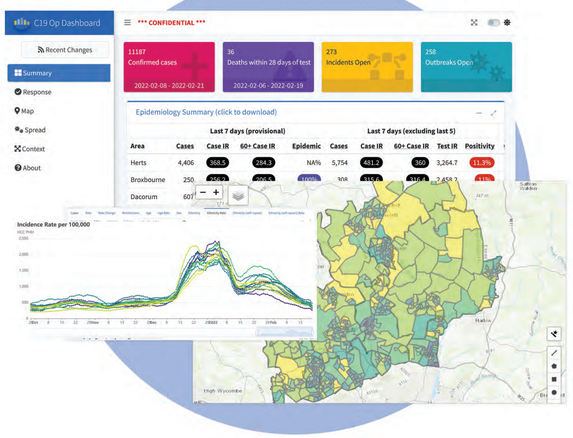
EPIDEMIOLOGY SURVEILLANCE



Surveillance

Over the course of the pandemic, the HCC Epidemiology team has developed a number of surveillance tools to detect clusters and outbreaks. These make use of the huge volume of new and varied data collected during COVID-19 and required the rapid development of new data flows and systems. These dashboards allow a shared understanding of COVID-19 across Hertfordshire and for teams to identify places and populations where transmission occurred in order to target limit spread across Hertfordshire. This work has been shared regionally and nationally.

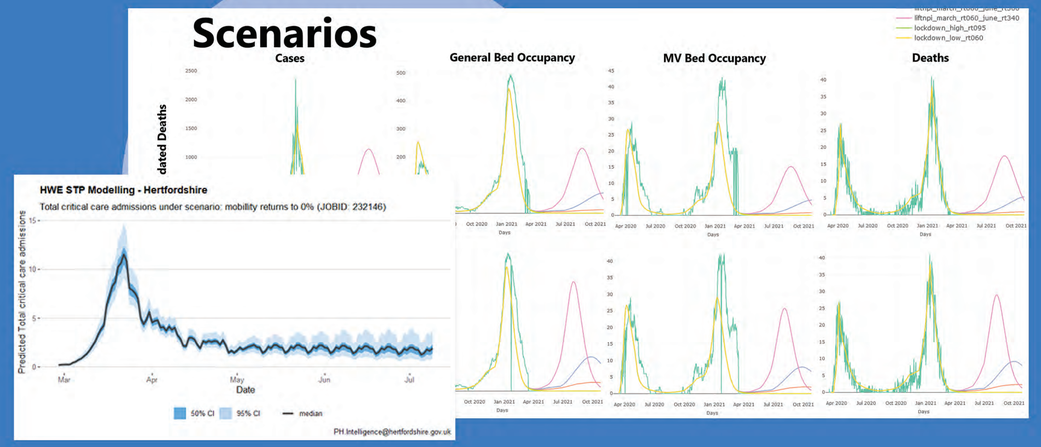
Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) Support

The SCG was set up at the start of the pandemic to coordinate response across the Hertfordshire system at a high level. Working with the SCG and LRF, the HCC Epidemiology team helped design the response level triggers and states that have determine the strategic response to COVID-19 in Hertfordshire. To aid decision making, data on system pressures was collated into a central dashboard and combined with modelling and epidemiological advice around future scenarios and the impact of different approaches to tackling COVID-19.

Supporting Response

To enable teams to respond collectively to transmission, the HCC Epidemiology team introduced new systems to allow cross organisational working to respond to outbreaks and collaborate on tasks such as contact tracing, testing, and outbreak and cluster investigation. The system has been adapted to facilitate vaccine tracing to encourage those who have not received a vaccine to do so as well as to understand and address blockers at a population level. In the future the system may be used to tackle other cross system challenges.

MODELLING EVIDENCE



COVID-19 Modelling

To aid strategic decision making and service planning HCC Epidemiology undertook modelling to understand how different scenarios of COVID-19 would affect the Hertfordshire system and how policy and system changes may reduce pressures. To undertake this modelling we worked with primary, secondary and community care, the third sector, and coroner services to understand how they had been impacted by COVID-19. We utilised national and international evidence on epidemiology to create a model to show different scenarios of how COVID-19 would spread within the population and what effect this may have on services. This work has been shared regionally and nationally.

Hertfordshire

Hertfordshire Public Health
Evidence & Intelligence
Epidemiology

PH.Intelligence@hertfordshire.gov.uk
www.hertshealthevidence.org