

# Acute Respiratory Hub Pilot Pathway Evaluation

in Partnership with Copeland Primary Care Network

**Respiratory illnesses** are the third biggest cause of death in the UK.<sup>1</sup> During the winter, hospital admissions can double, putting health systems at risk.<sup>1</sup>

The NHS has acknowledged that acute respiratory infections (ARI) are one of the most common reasons for Accident and Emergency attendance.<sup>1</sup>

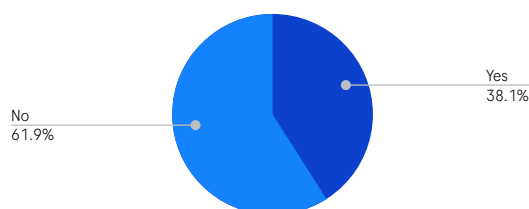
The NHS has stated that respiratory illnesses disproportionately impact those from disadvantaged groups and areas, widening the gap and exacerbating inequalities.<sup>1</sup>

**ARI hubs** were established by primary care teams to support patients with urgent clinical needs by providing same day, face-to-face access to appointments for adults and children.

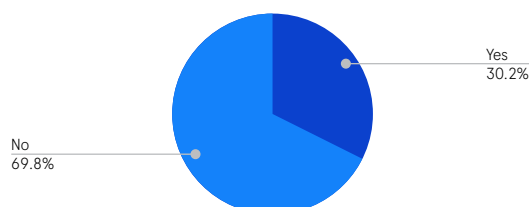
**Aims:** In partnership with Copeland Primary care network we evaluated the impact of placing rapid point of care tests in the ARI hub setting, to establish if having a diagnostic result changed the prescribing decisions and patient management.

**Outcomes:** The pilot demonstrated how the availability of an accurate diagnostic at the appropriate point in a patient pathway can support decision making and the reduction of inappropriate prescribing and help improve patient management.





## Changed prescribing decision



## Changed patient management



## Highlights

-  In total **63** point of care tests were performed
-  **24** of the results lead to change in prescribing decision
-  **19** of the results lead to a change in patient management decision
-  **1** patient was admitted to secondary care

## Pathway evaluation outcomes

	Flu A/B/Covid	Strep A
Total tests performed	58	5
Total positive	12	2
Total negative	46	3

Tests Performed	63	
Change in prescribing decision	24/63	38.09%
Change in management decision	19/63	30.16%
Discharged home	62/63	98.41%

1. NHS Choices. NHS. Available at: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/clinical-policy/respiratory-disease/> (Accessed: 5 June 2024).