



Births and Deaths

No peaks in births or circulatory and/or respiratory deaths are expected in April.



Poor Health and Illness

Once again, heart failure is predicted to be high during this month, continuing the long-term high that began at the end of the previous year.

In the second week of April, the number of cases of stroke (which had been rapidly increasing since mid-March) will reach a peak. Stroke cases will continue to be high until the beginning of June.

From the middle of the month, the occurrence of chest pain is predicted to increase and then to enter a prolonged high for the vast majority of the rest of the year. At the same time, mental health illness will increase to very high levels for the first time in the year. This high level will be sustained throughout the rest of the spring and much of the summer.



Injury and Violence

The increase in falls among 5 to 14 year olds, first noticed in March, is not only predicted to continue, but also to grow throughout April. Falls amongst 15 to 34 year olds will also be high at the beginning of the month and can be expected to remain continuously high throughout both April and May.

In addition, for the first time in the year, road traffic accidents will increase to high levels at the start of the month. The upward trend will continue and grow throughout April and beyond, and will only decline again in mid-October.

Self-harm is predicted to increase to high levels at the beginning of April. These high levels will then be sustained throughout the month and for the rest of the spring and summer. At the same time, and initially associated with the Easter bank holiday weekend, violence will increase and remain high for a prolonged period right through to the start of autumn.



Gastro-intestinal Infections

There will be no peaks in gastro-intestinal infections during the month. However, cases of *Campylobacter* will start to increase prior to an expected substantial rise in May.

ⁱ Definitions and data sources for all conditions - www.nwpho.org.uk/healthcalendar/docs/about.pdf