



### Births and Deaths

Excess winter deaths, primarily caused by mortality from circulatory and respiratory diseases, will decline during March. Respiratory disease deaths have already fallen to more normal levels during February. Whilst circulatory disease deaths will be expected to remain high throughout the final weeks of winter, levels will drop towards the end of March.



### Poor Health and Illness

A similar occurrence of poor health and illness is to be expected in March as in the previous month. Thus, both heart failure and diabetes will be at high levels, with the number of heart failure cases predicted to be extremely high in March. Whilst the incidence of diabetes will again be high throughout the majority of the month, in the last week of March, near the advent of spring, the numbers will fall to more usual levels.



### Injury and Violence

Injuries and violence will, for the most part, be within usual levels during March. However, in mid-March, falls amongst 5 to 14 year olds are likely to increase to a high level. This rise will progressively grow throughout the latter half of March.



### Gastro-intestinal Infections

The incidence of norovirus will continue at high levels during March. However, at the end of the month the number of cases will drop and a substantial rise in cases is not expected again until late November.

<sup>i</sup> Definitions and data sources for all conditions - [www.nwpho.org.uk/healthcalendar/docs/about.pdf](http://www.nwpho.org.uk/healthcalendar/docs/about.pdf)