



OCTOBERⁱ



Births and Deaths

In the first two weeks of October, births are envisaged to remain at a peak. The second highest number of births is forecast to occur in the first part of this month. Babies born around this time of year, for the most part, would have been conceived around the Christmas and New Year period. However, in the latter half of the month, the number of births is predicted to fall again to more usual levels.



Poor Health and Illness

The highest peak of the year for cases of asthma should continue into October from its dramatic high in September, and the number of cases is expected to remain high in the first couple of weeks of the month. However, towards the end of the month, the incidence of asthma is forecast to decline to lower levels.

During the whole of October, there are likely to be high levels of chest pain, a continuation of a long-term high since April.



Injury and Violence

Although it is expected that October will still be a relatively busy month for injury and violence, some conditions will be showing a decline. For instance, road traffic accident injuries are forecast to be relatively high in October, although at a lower level than predicted in the peak months of May to September. However, after the middle of October road traffic accident injuries are likely to decline and should not increase again substantially until well into the following year.

In addition, whilst injuries from falls amongst 5 to 14 year olds are still expected to be relatively high for the majority of the month (a sustained trend) they are forecast to show a consistent decrease throughout October. By the end of the month it is anticipated that the number of falls will have declined to a far lower level.

The number of cases of self-harm is expected to continue to be high during the month.



Gastro-intestinal Infections

The expected and marked seasonal peak in *Cryptosporidium* continues into the first half of this month. This seasonal high, first expected at the end of August, is anticipated to come to an end in the latter half of October as the number of cases declines.

Cases of *Salmonella* will continue to be high in October, maintaining the seasonal peak first anticipated in June. However, a gradual decrease is expected during the month and by the end of October, cases will have declined to more typical levels.

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