

Case Study: Covid-19 Response

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The Challenge

The UK, along with many other countries, had been in lockdown for 4 months, with initial vaccines being deployed through army channels

There was limited-to-zero knowledge regarding antibodies, the longer-term efficacy of vaccines, and therefore limited ability to plan based on evidence

With a wider impact on the UK and global economies with schools closed due to the increased risk of transmission between children and families

Our Response

Facilitated a new clinical study, focussed on school children, organising agencies who had never worked together before, e.g. DfE, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, PHE/T&T, DHSC, ONS, LEAs, foundations and schools

Advised on clinical ethics, organised user research, resolved complex orchestration of blood samples, ID management and school and pupil enrolment

Developed process & data designs for use within the partner network

The Results

The first study discovering the effective duration of antibodies arising from COVID-19 infection

This indicated roughly a 3 month period of increased resistance due to the presence of relevant antibodies and was disseminated during regular Prime Minister's briefings

The "approach has been a tremendous example of pan-Government working alongside academia – true teamwork across organisational boundaries" – UKHSA CEO

Sector: Government, Health, Education, Public Health

Functions: Statistics and Data, Frontline Health, Teaching