COVID-19Brief



Here is the brief for Friday 19 February 2021.

COVID-19 vaccination programme - staff On a positive note for a Friday, we would like to reassure staff that we have sufficient Pfizer for second doses. Staff organising peer to peer for those they vaccinated in December can start placing orders. The delivery of these vaccines should be in line with how they were delivered in December, therefore those who were first to receive their initial dose will be first to receive their second dose. Those booked into clinics should attend their appointments as planned, however you may be contacted by email or telephone by the booking teams to bring forward your appointment. Where possible please cancel any clinic appointment you are unable to attend as far in advance as possible. We take Pfizer out of the freezer to match the clinic numbers and do not want to have any wastage. Please use the vaccine order form attached to the email used to send out this brief.

COVID-19 vaccination public programme – support for people with Learning Disabilities

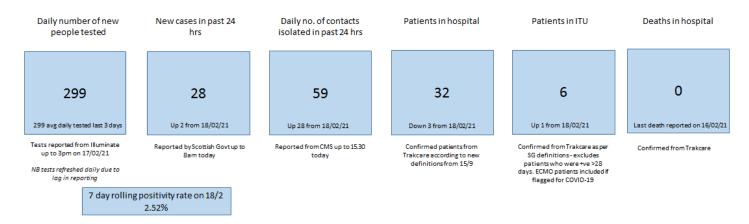
Significant work has been undertaken by the Learning Disability Service for Aberdeen City help ensure that the Mass Vaccination Centre at P&J Live meets the needs of people with a Learning Disability. One measure is the introduction of a quiet area where people can opt to receive their vaccination. This area includes a roomy but enclosed vaccination space, a recovery area with a bed, a spacious waiting area with seating for before and after the vaccination, its own designated toilets including an accessible toilet.

The area is within easy reach of the main entrance, an accessible changing room, and the lifts to and from the car park. There is good provision of accessible parking spaces beside the entrance from the car park. It is advisable to book ahead for this quiet area, by contacting the Aberdeen City Learning Disability Health Duty Team on 01224 812900, email: gram.cityldhealthduty@nhs.scot. The duty team will also be able to provide advice or support that people with a learning disability may require in relation to their COVID vaccination, including providing accessible information about getting the COVID vaccine, and about the journey to/arrival at TECA. Stewards at the venue have also been briefed about the quiet area and can direct people to it as required.

Not all contacts are close contacts Now that word is out that close contacts of COVID-19 cases should get a test we are finding that some people are arranging a test when, in reality, they are not a close contact of a case. Sometimes the contact has been in a period when the case was not infectious. Sometimes the contact has not been a close contact according to the definition. The clear rule for all health & social care staff is – do not arrange a test unless as contact tracer has advised you. Remember, if you have not been contacted by a contact tracer you are almost certainly not a close contact. Also note that there is no point in having a test until 3-5 days after the contact with the case. This is particularly important where the case has been diagnosed by a Lateral Flow Device test, because the results are available so quickly.

Mental health improvement training The Public Health directorate has organised a range of short, virtual, stress awareness & management and other public mental health training courses for health & social care, and Third Sector, staff. These courses aim to raise awareness around mental health and wellbeing problems, explore solutions and signpost participants to related resources. The courses can be attended by any member of staff (clinical and non-clinical) working at any level across the sectors in Grampian. More information on the courses on offer and how to book a slot is attached to the email used to send out this brief.

Grampian data The local figures for today and the 7 day rolling positivity rate are shown below. If you click <u>here</u> you can visit the Public Health Scotland website, which includes neighbourhood figures for all local authority areas in Scotland.



Adult Support & Protection Awareness Day Tomorrow (20 February) is national Adult Support and Protection Awareness Day. It's a good opportunity to remind all of us to be vigilant for adults who may be at risk of abuse or harm. During the pandemic, those adults most at risk of being harmed have had less contact from friends, family and professionals. As a result, there is a real worry that vulnerable people might be getting harmed and abused, but it not being spotted. It's therefore really important we all know how to recognise, respond, and report on any signs of abuse or harm. Attached to the COVID brief today is the 'e-card' for Adult Support and Protection, which is an easy reference for NHS Grampian staff on what to do when they encounter an adult at risk. Better than just reading the e-card, however, is making sure you are up to date with your adult support and protection training. An online adult support and protection course is available via TURAS (search "adult support and protection elearning"). You can also contact the Public Protection Unit directly on gram.publicprotection@nhs.scot for details on facilitated adult protection courses (run via MS Teams).

Mental Health Nurses Day If you've spent any time on social media over the past few days, you will already know that Sunday (21 February) is Mental Health Nurses Day. Our colleagues in the Mental Health & Learning Disability Service have been posting short videos around the theme of Celebrate, Describe, Promote – you can check these out by following #MHNursesDay. We'll have more from the team in Monday's brief.

PPE 3 week look ahead Stocks remain healthy across all key items.



Orange Award Huge congratulations to Rachael Ironside and Claire McAvoy (both nurses in ICU at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary) on their much-deserved Orange Award success this week. If you think those names sound familiar, it's because Rachael and Claire are the brains behind a fundraising challenge, aiming to get the whole Critical Care team on a virtual trek from Aberdeen to the North Pole. They've already raised more than £4,500 for local charity Instant Neighbour.

If you have superstars in your midst, be sure to nominate them for an Orange Award, by clicking here or by emailing gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot

Question of the day Our current question is focused on those of you who are eligible for twice weekly asymptomatic Lateral Flow testing and have actively chosen not to participate. We have had a small number of responses so far – a big thank you if you've already taken part – so we will be leaving this question open over the weekend. Full results will be shared on Monday; to take part just click here or copy this link into your browser: https://www.menti.com/f8ieftbnij.

Thought for the day It's the end of another working week. However it has been for you – challenging, productive, restful, busy, frustrating – we hope that you are able to take some positives into the weekend. We didn't receive any submissions for The Gallery this week, so you're encouraged (challenged?) to get some time outside over the weekend and capture the world around you. If you are on shift, as ever, stay safe and take care.

Questions to ask? Information to share? If you have particular questions – or are aware of questions coming from friends and family – please share them with us. We may not be able to answer every question and it may take us time to get a proper answer, but we will endeavour to respond and share the answers. You can get in touch with us via gram.communications@nhs.scot. Please also use that email address if you have items for consideration for future briefs.