

Tuesday 20 December 2022

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**Staff vaccination clinics** Two more staff vaccination clinics have been arranged, as follows:

- Wednesday 21 December – Ward 17, Woodend Hospital, 1 - 4.30pm
- Thursday 22 December – Level 1 Tutorial Room, Green Zone, ARI, 10.30am - 4.30pm

These clinics are open to all staff, offering 'flu and COVID-19 vaccination, depending on eligibility. Appointments not required.

Staying with vaccination, all clinics in Grampian are now open for drop-in by children aged 2-5, and primary/secondary school pupils. There are clinics in Elgin, Huntly, Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Macduff, Inverurie, Banchory, Stonehaven, and Aberdeen – Airyhall, Bridge of Don, and ACVC (former John Lewis). Details of the festive opening arrangements for all clinics are in Volume 3 of the Festive Service Arrangements guide, attached to the email used to send this brief.

**Payslip delays** There has been a national issue today with the printing of monthly payslips. While this has now been resolved it has left a printing backlog. As such there may be some delays in the distribution of monthly payslips to workplace address. Apologies for any inconvenience this issue may cause.

**ePayslips** Following on from the recent Ask Caroline video, details of how to sign up to ePayslips, guidance on logging in to the system and how to use self-service [can be found here](#) (intranet link, networked devices only). Please note access to the ePayroll system **must** be done via a network PC; it is not possible to access your e-Payslip outwith the network, or on a smartphone/tablet

**Virtual Visiting** If you work in a clinical area which has iPads to use for virtual visiting, please check all devices are working correctly as a matter of urgency, so there is time available to address any issues which arise.

**Clinical Biochemistry Referral Sample Handling During Postal Strike & Public Holidays** The Clinical Biochemistry Department sends many samples to referral labs for specialist testing via Royal Mail. There will be further strike action at Royal Mail on 23/24 December. Please be aware of the following:

- The laboratory is using alternative delivery options via courier services where possible, but ask if it is all possible for service users to avoid sending non urgent samples during this period.
- Steps will be taken by the lab to ensure the stability and quality of these samples as far as possible. However, samples sent by Royal Mail to referral labs will be delayed, and in some instances, may even require a repeat sample to be taken.

Please contact the Duty Biochemist on Ext 51122 option 3 for advice.

**Staff Equality Network** The network will meet for the final time in 2022 tomorrow (21 December) between 2-3pm. Alison Evison, Chair of Grampian NHS board, is the special guest and all are warmly invited to attend. The meeting takes place on Teams, to get the link, just email [gram.staffequalities@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.staffequalities@nhs.scot)

**PHS survey – equality & diversity info** If your job brings you into direct contact with patients and you ask for and record their equality and diversity information, then Public Health Scotland (PHS) would like to hear more about your experiences of doing this. PHS are developing new resources for NHS staff to support the collection and use of patients' personal equality and diversity information, and they would like to use your experiences and feedback to help them shape this.

Please help in the creation of these resources by completing the short and anonymous online questionnaire. It should take from 5-10 minutes depending on how much information you wish to provide. [The questionnaire is available online until 27 January 2023](#). If you have any questions or you'd like more details, please contact Avril McKenzie: Email: [Avril.McKenzie1@phs.scot](mailto:Avril.McKenzie1@phs.scot) Phone: 07790 952357

**Reminder - 2023 Winter Step Count Challenge** The next step count challenge gets underway on Monday 16 January, ending on Sunday 12 February (dates inclusive). Entry is free, every participant can claim a free water bottle and pedometers are also free for those who require one. As before this challenge is for teams of 5 staff. Once you have your team decided the team captain emails [gram.activetravel@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.activetravel@nhs.scot) for a link to set up their team and add the other members. More information [is available on the My Healthy Workplace website](#)

**Festive Frolics** Yesterday we asked if Die Hard should be considered a Christmas movie; the results are in and you said it IS a Christmas movie, by 151 to 70. This is either a triumph for common sense or a complete travesty, depending on your view. Today, we're getting practical and asking if you know the optimum temperature for your Christmas turkey; [you can see the options and make your choice here](#).

We've got a two for the price of one special on tunes today; Joyce Geddes retires from Ardach Health Centre in Buckie and has asked for [Anna Kendrick and Cups \(When I'm Gone\)](#) for her colleagues, who we know will miss her as much as she will miss them.

Secondly, we have to mark the sudden death of Terry Hall, at the age of just 63. There have been lots of requests in today – thanks to Tracey Milne, Emma Coutts, and Fiona Brebner – I've gone for Fun Boy Three and [Our Lips Are Sealed](#) (EP).

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)