

Thursday 1 August 2024

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**Welcome Foundation Year Doctors!** On behalf of NHS Grampian, we want to give a very warm welcome to all new Foundation Year 1 and 2 doctors, who, having completed two days of induction, are now shadowing clinical shifts. We are delighted you are starting in Grampian. In the coming days, weeks, and months you will put into practice everything you have learned at university, and more, to discover just where a career in medicine can take you.

This would not be possible without all our multidisciplinary colleagues who support new doctors on their professional journey, and we want to thank **everyone** who will support and welcome our new doctors onto the ward.

**Network congestion update** As advised in May and June we are dealing with a high level of network congestion at peak times, which is affecting the performance of some clinical systems.

Work to upgrade our connection to the Scottish Wide Area Network (SWAN) has been delayed, therefore we continue to ask all users to switch OFF their cameras for Teams calls between 7-10am, Monday-Friday, as this is making a positive difference to network performance.

We hope upgrade work will be complete by mid/late August and will provide further updates. In the meantime, please report any issues to the Service Desk, using the desktop shortcut or by calling ext 54444.

**Reminder - Treatment Escalation Plans launch event** We are pleased to invite all clinical staff to our Treatment Escalation Plans (TEP) launch event. TEPs are an essential tool to facilitate and support shared decision-making should a patient's condition worsen. As part of our commitment to patient care, we will be implementing TEPs for all acute inpatients across NHS Grampian.

- Date: Wednesday 14 August
- Time: 11.30am - 12.30pm
- Location: Medical Lecture Theatre, Level 1, Purple Zone, ARI

During the event, you'll have the opportunity to hear from a wide range of speakers who will discuss how TEP conversations and documentation benefit both patients and healthcare professionals. We encourage your attendance and active participation. [You can register your interest via this link.](#)

Refreshments will be provided courtesy of a donation, please bring your own cup.

**Aberdeen Vaccination Centre & Wellbeing Hub newsletter** Our base in Unit 19, Bon Accord Centre, Aberdeen is much more than 'just' a vaccination centre. For the latest information on what is going on, you can [check out their August newsletter via this link.](#)

**Ectopic pregnancy awareness day – 1 August** Ectopic pregnancy affects 1 in 80 pregnancies and remains the leading cause of maternal mortality in the first trimester of pregnancy in the UK. It occurs when the pregnancy implants in an abnormal location - over 95% of ectopic pregnancies implant in a fallopian tube. When an ectopic pregnancy ruptures the symptoms can often be mistaken for other conditions including gastroenteritis, UTIs, and more. It's important for clinical teams to 'Think Ectopic' and check a urine pregnancy test in all women of reproductive age presenting to health services with any sort of abdominal pain or vaginal bleeding.

The Ectopic Pregnancy Trust charity provides support to people with ectopic pregnancy and has a range of resources on their website: [The Ectopic Pregnancy Trust - Support For You And Your Loved Ones](#)

**Centres of Excellence update** The research and development team has shortlisted nine ideas to develop at least two new 'Centres of Excellence', in accordance with our strategy for the next five years. Further information has been sent to those applicants to support them in developing fully fledged proposals. Applicants will be invited to give short pitches at the annual Grampian Research Conference on 4 October (ONE BioHub), and the R&D strategy delivery plan event on 17 December (RGU). Anyone wishing to contribute should contact the primary applicant before 15 September either directly (details available in 25 June brief) or via [gram.randd@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.randd@nhs.scot)

**Aroma Woodend birthday** Time flies and next week will mark FIVE years of Aroma at Woodend. To mark the occasion, retail catering is running a raffle. Simply wish the colleagues at Aroma Woodend 'Happy Birthday' and leave your contact details to be in with a chance of winning. Please note, this only applies to Aroma Woodend.

**Tunes of the day** Jackie Low – acute Learning Disability nurse advisor – is about to set off on the adventure of a lifetime, climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. All the learning disability nurses across Grampian wish her lots of luck and hope Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell's [Ain't No Mountain High Enough](#) gives her all the inspiration to keep going

Alison Thom is leaving the staff experience team for a new role in the organisation, but not before a holiday in the sun. Eve Lamond got in touch on behalf of the team to request [Highland Girl](#) by Nathan Evans – apparently a favourite for Alison and her kids to bop to – to say cheerio and wish her all the best.

And finally, we say farewell to the NHS Grampian legend that is Terry Duncan. A firm fixture in his car-parking bothy on the Foresterhill site, he is now embarking on a very well-deserved retirement. For Terry, with enormous thanks, The Clash and [Should I Stay or Should I Go](#) (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)