

Monday 27 January 2025

Excess and Overtime Hours - appropriate recording in SSTS As part of NHS Grampian's work to monitor the reduction in the use of excess and overtime hours we want to remind all authorising managers they should **not** use 'Reason Not Provided' or 'Other' as a reason when recording these hours in SSTS. You should use the category that describes the reason why it was necessary to authorise excess and/or overtime hours to be worked. Data from SSTS for Quarter 1 and 2 2024/25, has shown 37% instances of excess and overtime hours recorded as 'Reason Not provided' or 'Other' reason. Your assistance in ensuring the appropriate reason is recorded will help greatly in the continual monitoring of why excess and overtime hours are required.

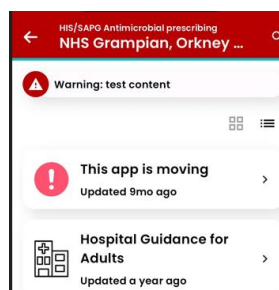
January pay day If you are paid monthly, January pay day is tomorrow (28 January). E-payslips are already available. Information on e-payslips and pay dates can be found [on the Payroll intranet pages](#) (networked devices only).

COVID vaccination This is the final week to get a COVID vaccination; this part of the Autumn/Winter programme will end on 31 January. Health and social care workers who have direct patient/client contact are eligible for free vaccination. You can drop-in to any of the vaccination centres in Grampian. **The 'flu vaccine – which is offered to ALL NHS staff - will continue to be available until 31 March.**

Hospital Empirical Antimicrobial Guideline Updates The following sections have recently been updated on the [Right Decisions website](#) and app:

- [Human / Animal Bites](#)
- [Epididymitis / Orchitis](#)

Please ensure you have the most up to date version of the Right Decisions app downloaded; v4.7.2. To check, click on the three dots on the bottom right of the app. If updates are required, these can be done via the App Store (Apple) or Google Play store (Android devices). If you see a warning message - like the screenshot below - please uninstall the app and then re-install it.



If you have any problems or queries, please contact gram.antibioticpharmacists@nhs.scot.

Communication training – RACH The speech and language therapy team at RACH would like to invite any staff working within the hospital to come along to our communication training session on Thursday 20 February, 11am – 12pm, Seminar room 1. The session will involve an overview of our role and discussion around effective communication strategies you can use with patients. If you are interested, please register [by completing this short form](#).

IT training dates Courses in [Word, Excel and File Management are open for booking on Turas](#) (requires log-in). Dates are scheduled to the end of March, with more to follow in the Spring months. Excel **Intermediate** courses can be booked by contacting anne.duffy@nhs.scot directly. This is to ensure your Excel knowledge is appropriate for the course before booking. If colleagues are based in Elgin or Aberdeenshire, please contact Anne with your training requests. Training can be delivered via Teams, particularly if numbers are small, to save on travel expenses.

ICYMI - road closure - Foresterhill Health Campus To allow for resurfacing work, the section of Foresterhill Road between Ashgrove Road West and the start of the Loop Road will be CLOSED between 10pm-6am each night, **starting tonight**. During those hours, there will be NO access into or out of the site from Ashgrove Road West. Access to the shale car park and the multi-storey car park will be via Westburn Road/Loop Road only. The works will run over 5 nights, finishing at 6am on Saturday 1 February. Traffic management signs will be in place and must be followed. Foresterhill Road will be open as usual during the hours of 6am-10pm. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Wintering Wild and Well webinars Interested in getting together with others to celebrate wellbeing, nature and our local environment? The first in a series of webinars, led by the RSPB, takes place this Wednesday, 7-8pm. It will feature Alison Hannan and Paul Southworth from our public health team. For more information and to book your place, email nesevents@rspb.org.uk.

Pause for thought What one thing uppermost in your mind right now could do with changing? What catalyst is needed to get the ball rolling?

Tune of the day Stephen Ramsay (advanced nurse practitioner, Ward 7, DGH) just missed getting his 'blue' song in on Friday (by seconds), so he starts off a new working week with [Pale Blue Eyes](#) by Paul Quinn and Edwyn Collins. Thanks also to my colleague Katy Jones, who has this morning alerted me to Les Fo'Plafonds, a French band who are quite unlike anything I've seen before. Their take on AC/DC's [Thunderstruck](#) should shake off any Monday blues...(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