

Thursday 6 June 2024

iMatter 2024 Only a few more days to share how you feel about working in NHS Grampian or one of the health and social care partnerships. Your views matter. 10,738 people have responded so far; that's a 54% response rate. Not received your questionnaire or having problems accessing it? Contact gram.imatter@nhs.scot for support and advice.

Service update – Domestic & Support Services At present, due to high levels of staff absence, the domestic & support services team are prioritising high-risk clinical areas. This means low-risk, non-clinical areas may not receive the usual frequency of cleaning. Please be assured the team works as a collective group to prioritise areas and reallocate staff, and we appreciate your support and understanding. You can help us focus on the task at hand by refraining from multiple queries to the supervisors on lack of domestic staff in areas. Regrettably, if you work in a non-clinical area your domestic service will be very limited at present. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Infection Prevention and Control Turas landing page The Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team have [developed a dedicated landing page on Turas](#) relating to the Scottish Infection Prevention and Control Education Pathway (SIPCEP) and local mandatory IPC training.

This page details where the IPC modules can be found, signposts you to helpful documents, links to related pages on Turas, and specifies IPC training that should be done either every year or every two years. There is also sub-page with other training bookable via gram.infectioncontrol@nhs.scot and delivered by your local IPC Nurse.

Whooping Cough (*Bordetella pertussis*) – what you need to know We have experienced a sharp rise in cases of whooping cough locally (and across Scotland) since December 2023. Sometimes known as the 100-day cough, whooping cough is highly contagious until three weeks after the onset of cough, or 48 hours of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Up to 90% of household contacts will acquire the infection. The cough increases in frequency and severity over time. Intense, uncontrollable, coughing fits can lead to vomiting. People may make an audible 'whoop' when they cough or have a bluish tinge to the skin, lips, or nail beds.

Unimmunised infants are the group most vulnerable to severe complications including pneumonia, seizures, encephalitis, or death. Neonates can be protected by maternal antibodies and infants by immunisation, hence the importance of vaccination in pregnancy and infancy. Protection from vaccination or past infection is not lifelong, but vaccinated individuals tend to have a milder illness. Vaccination is also recommended for healthcare workers who have regular contact with young infants and those in the final stages of pregnancy

Further information is available on NHS Inform here: [Whooping cough | NHS inform](#)

Transition to NRFIT products Further to recent recommendations, the transition to NRFIT products in NHS Grampian is now underway. All indicated departments should have now been contacted and be transitioning to NRFIT products. Should you have any product queries please contact the procurement department for further support email gram.procurement@nhs.scot. All available NRFIT products can be found on PECOS and departments should ensure they have adequate supplies to allow full implementation to take place and Luer products removed. [More information is available here](#).

Leading Person-Centred Cultures and Care @ NHS Grampian: An NMAHP Leader's Programme Spaces remain open for this programme beginning in July (to be held at Dunbarney House, DGH) and limited spaces for our August cohort (to be held at the Suttie Centre, Foresterhill). We would strongly encourage all team leaders, nurse and midwife managers, and AHP leads to consider undertaking this programme as part of their leadership development. Please send your enquiries/application to gram.practiceeducation@nhs.scot. Further information and the application form can be [found here \(intranet link, networked devices only\)](#).

Appointment of non-executive board members Two new non-executive members have been appointed to the Grampian NHS Board: Dr Colette Backwell and Ritchie Johnson. Their appointments begin on Monday 10 June, further information is available here: [Public appointment: Members appointed to Grampian NHS Board - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

NMAHP new graduate welcome event The next NMAHP new graduate welcome event will be in-person on Friday 26 July, 9.30am-2pm, in the Suttie Centre (Conference Room, 402). Booking is via Turas (log-in required): [NMAHP Welcome | Turas | Learn \(nhs.scot\)](#) All NMAHP new graduates are required to attend one of these events.

Seeking expressions of interest from services to create new centres of UK research excellence Clinical departments and services interested in supporting the research and development department in "shaping two new centres of UK-wide excellence by 2028" are reminded the deadline to send their three-page concept notes is 16 June. There's more information in the brief from 30 May.

Tune of the day A brace of requests to celebrate Biomedical Science Day and our laboratory superstars: Glenn Ross, on behalf of the Institute of Biomedical Science Committee, requests Coldplay and [The Scientist](#), while Emma Parkins (chief biomedical scientist at DGH) has asked for [Heroes](#) by David Bowie.

Thanks also to Helen Rowbottom for suggesting [High on a Hill](#) marking the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings (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