

COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus



Here is the brief for Friday 2 July 2021.

Contact tracing The significant – and ongoing – increase in confirmed cases of COVID-19 is placing contact tracing teams under growing pressure. As a result, we are today urging everyone who tests positive to complete the details of their contacts using the online form provided to them with their test results. In addition, they must self-isolate in line with Scottish Government guidance.

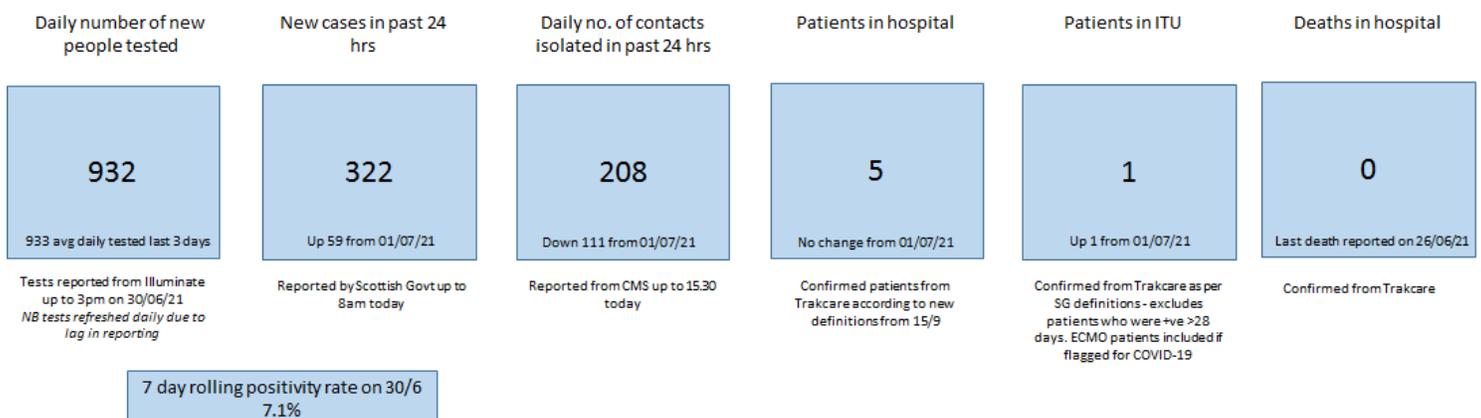
Chris Littlejohn, deputy Director of Public Health, said: “Regrettably, the sheer volume of cases means we are not currently in position to contact trace every positive test that comes into the system. We are prioritising those individuals most at risk from COVID-19 for telephone calls, those at lower risk will receive a text message with further guidance. Our message is clear – we need people to complete the online form supplied with a positive test result.

“If you do test positive for COVID-19, you must follow the guidance and isolate properly. Self-isolation means 10 days at home, with no contact with anyone outside your household. You must not leave your home for any reason. [All the latest detail on what self-isolation involves is available on the Scottish Government website.](#) Support is available to help you do this; you can contact the Grampian Coronavirus Assistance Hub on 0808 196 3384 (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm) or via their website – www.gcah.org.uk. If you live in Aberdeen City, you should call 0800 0304 713.

“I cannot emphasise enough the importance of self-isolation if you test positive and – crucially – staying away from family or friends who are older or have long term conditions which make them particularly vulnerable to COVID-19, even if they have been fully vaccinated.

“Around 1 in 5 of the confirmed cases we are seeing are in people who have had both doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. This is in line with all the evidence to date about the effectiveness of the vaccines. While vaccines offer vital protection, no jab is 100% fool-proof, which is why we still need people to exercise caution.”

Grampian data Here is the local update for today, including the 7-day rolling positivity rate. As a reminder, this rate is arrived at by dividing the number of positive tests in the past 7 days by the number of tests carried out in the past 7 days. Repeat tests are included in both categories. The figure for the “daily number of new people tested” is only for the number of tests for people who have not been tested previously. A national update is available on the [Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).



Change to Cleaning regimes, and management of waste and linen within COVID-19 amber pathway – UPDATE In national guidance issued last Friday (25th June) changes were made to the amber pathway requirements and it was requested that these were implemented. In light of current community transmission, the decision has been taken that in NHS Grampian, we will revert to previous levels of cleaning for environment (shown below) and equipment. All linen shall revert to being processed as potentially infectious.

Table 8: Environmental cleaning determined by pathway

	Low risk pathway (green)	Medium risk pathway (amber)	High risk pathway (red)
First daily clean	Full clean	Full clean	Full clean
Second daily clean	High Risk Touch Surfaces* within clinical inpatient areas	High Risk Touch Surfaces within clinical inpatient areas	High Risk Touch Surfaces within clinical inpatient areas
Product	General-purpose detergent. Note that cleaning in the low-risk pathway should be carried out with chlorine-based detergent for patient rooms where the patient is known to have any other known or suspected infectious agent.	Combined detergent/disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1000 ppm av chlorine or general-purpose neutral detergent in a solution of warm water followed by a disinfectant solution of 1000ppm av chlorine.	Combined detergent/disinfectant solution at a dilution of 1000 ppm av chlorine or general-purpose neutral detergent in a solution of warm water followed by a disinfectant solution of 1000ppm av chlorine.

Use of FRSMs by visitors In addition to the restriction to one, named, visitor per patient, we are now encouraging everyone attending NHS Grampian hospitals as a visitor to wear a Fluid Repellent Surgical Mask, rather than a face covering. These masks are available at all entrances to our hospitals. Individuals will not be prevented from entry if they wish to use their own face covering, but where possible we are encouraging the use of these masks instead. As ever, we recognise certain people are exempt from mask wearing and this will continue to be respected.

[The FAQ on the use of face coverings/face masks in healthcare premises was updated this week and is available to view here.](#)

Workplace culture Tom Power – Director of People & Culture – has provided a video update on culture in our workplaces and reflecting on your responses when we asked What Matters to You? [You can view this update here – in it Tom also outlines the plans to publish the results of the first We Care Pulse survey.](#) If you have any feedback or questions, you can email them to gram.workforce@nhs.scot

PPE 3 week look ahead:

PPE Summary - Predicted Equipment Remaining at the end of each week

	FFP3 Mask	type IIR mask	Covid Gowns	Theatre Gowns	Visors + Goggles	Aprons	Gloves
June 28, 2021	248,488	233,072	11,786	4,968	40,302	1,007,015	2,175,844
July 5, 2021	250,170	234,220	11,822	5,347	40,604	1,007,015	2,175,844
July 12, 2021	251,852	235,367	11,858	5,725	40,906	1,007,015	2,175,844
July 19, 2021	253,534	236,515	11,894	6,103	41,208	1,007,015	2,175,844

■ Stock < 0
 ■ Stock <= 2 Days
 ■ Stock <= 5 Days
 ■ Stock > 5 Days

Orange Award Huge congratulations to Dr Laura Muirhead, GP at Great Western Medical Practice in Aberdeen and recent winner of the Orange Award! If you know somebody (or somebodies) who is deserving of recognition for their efforts in health & social care, why not nominate them? [This can be done via the Orange Award online form](#) or by emailing gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot

Thought for the day – a random act of kindness Something a little different today... Theresa and Moragh (both medical secretaries at ARI) were in the Pink Zone Café on Wednesday when they realised neither of them had cash to pay for their lunch. Another member of staff promptly paid for their meals – and refused to say who they were so Theresa and Moragh could reimburse them. So, on behalf of them both, thank you to the blonde haired, greens wearing, benefactor for making their day and upholding the spirit of the NHS!

Tune of the day If yesterday was teenage me, today it's 20-something me. I've lost count of how many times friends and I would enthusiastically perform [the Elephant Love Medley from Moulin Rouge!](#) I can't be the only one (please...). This is also a great way to bookend the working week, as Baz Luhrmann (he of the Sunscreen Song) also directed Moulin Rouge!

We say this every Friday – and we mean it every Friday – we really hope you all get some down time over the course of the weekend. Please take care of yourselves, it has been another tough week, and none of us can pour from an empty cup.

Get in touch! If you've got a question, an item to share with people working in health & social care, or just want to suggest a tune of the day, we want to hear from you! Drop us a line via gram.communications@nhs.scot.