

Here is the brief for Monday 7 March 2022.

Trial extension of hospital visiting From Wednesday 9 March, a small number of clinical areas will be trialling a return to person-centred visiting, as follows:

- Wards 112 & 114 – ARI
- Paediatrics – RACH and Dr Gray’s Hospital
- Roxburghe House
- Morningfield House & Ward 9 – Woodend Hospital
- Rothieden Ward – Huntly Community Hospital
- Summers Ward – Peterhead Community Hospital

This means in these clinical areas there will be opportunity for patients to have an increase in the number of visitors they have on any given day. What this means on an individual basis will be a discussion with the patient and the clinical team taking care of them. This will include consideration of the environment of the clinical setting and the number of people that can be safely accommodated within the area. The general public are being advised changes to their visiting plans in these areas should not be made until they have had a conversation with the SCN, to ensure all visits can be safely accommodated. We are also reminding visitors of the need to stay away if they are at all unwell (with symptoms of COVID-19 or any other infections) and encouraging testing with Lateral Flow Devices before visiting. We are also emphasising the use of Fluid Repellent Surgical Masks, in preference to fabric face coverings, and frequent hand hygiene during visits.

Occupational Health Service – change to management referrals The OHS department has changed how they accept management referrals. Going forward, Manager Referral Forms will no longer be accepted by email. Instead, all new Management Referrals must be submitted using the new [OHS Management Referral Portal](#). Managers must visit this site whenever they wish to refer an employee to Occupational Health. They will also find the [Employee Information Sheet](#) which should be provided to the staff member being referred and an easy-to-follow [Manager's Guide](#) which will assist managers in submitting a referral using the new OHS portal. The main benefits for managers in using the new OHS portal include:

- triaging of clients to most the appropriate supports,
- clearer layout of the referral form to assist managers in formulating the questions they would like answered,
- less documents sent via email reducing the risk of data breaches,
- secure and accessible storage of submitted management referrals reducing reliance on paper records,
- and the referred staff member will also receive a copy.

Please note the process for self-referrals by staff directly has not changed and these should be submitted to gram.ohs@nhs.scot.

'Ask Caroline' and 'Caroline in conversation with...' In case you missed them, there are new videos featuring Chief Executive Caroline Hiscox answering your questions and in conversation with people working across NHS Grampian. The most recent Q&A video covers everything from car parking to physical distancing in the workplace, while Caroline chatted with Alex Campbell in the portering team in the latest 'Caroline in conversation with...'

If you have missed any of the previous episodes, including Practice Educator Helen Spark, GP Laura Muirhead, or Combat Medic James Baker, catch them all or any of the Ask Caroline videos on our YouTube playlist [Ask Caroline & In Conversation Episode Library](#)

Grampian data The local report is shown below. A complete national report, including the option to view cases at a neighbourhood level, [is available via the Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).

	Daily number of new people tested (PCR & LFT)	New cases in past 24 hrs	Daily no. of contacts isolated in past 24 hrs	Patients in hospital	Patients in ITU	Deaths in hospital
Sat 5/3	358	841	312	94	3	1 4/3/22
Sun 6/3	352	822	237	96	3	0
Mon 7/3	323 344 avg daily tested last 3 days	988 Up 166 from 6/3/22	208 Down 29 from 5/3/22	95 Down 1 from 6/3/22	3 No change from 6/3/22	0 Last death 4/3/22
	Tests reported from Illuminate up to 3pm on 5/3/22 (experimental stats) NB tests refreshed daily due to lag in reporting	Reported by PHS Dashboard. Midnight to midnight	Reported from CMS up to midnight	Confirmed patients from Trakcare according to new definitions from 15/9	Confirmed from Trakcare as per SG definitions - includes patients who were +ve >28 days. ECMO patients included if flagged for COVID-19	Confirmed from Trakcare

Evaluation Clinics

- Are you planning a service change or project but are not sure where evaluation fits?
- Are you designing an evaluation and would value an extra pair of eyes in making sure you have thought of everything?
- Do you have data but want some extra ideas on how to analyse it?

Whatever stage you are at, if you would appreciate advice on any aspect of planning, implementing, writing up or disseminating an evaluation then we can help. The Evaluation Network (please see attached a Meet the Team guide) are running monthly evaluation clinics which are open to all staff, starting Thursday 31 March via Teams (various slots from 12noon - 6pm). Slots will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis, please book [via this link](#) and one of the team will be in touch to confirm your appointment. If you have any questions, please contact either calum.leask@nhs.scot or duncan.sage@phs.scot

Opportunity for reflection Thanks to the Guided Journaling team for the regular Monday chance to pause and reflect. This is taken from the previous week's questions; if you are interested in Guided Journaling or any of the other We Care opportunities, [please visit the We Care website](#).

Many of us have an instinct to do everything we can to gain from others some form of appreciation. To feel truly appreciated what might you need to let go of and how might this help you?

Question of the day At the time of writing, an amazing 3836 people have answered our question on whether or not they will continue to wear face coverings after they cease to be a legal requirement on 21 March (remember FRSM use will continue in healthcare settings). We will close this question tomorrow, so don't miss your opportunity to have your say. It takes just seconds to complete, and you are welcome to share this link with friends and family: [Will you still wear a face covering after 21 March?](#)

Tune of the day I hope you'll indulge me in selecting today's tune and dedicating it to all the team working at the SNBTS centre in Aberdeen, some of the loveliest people ever to jab me in the arm! Whether you're a brand-new donor, or just haven't given in a while, you'll get a warm welcome. All donor sessions are appointment only; you can find information on the Aberdeen centre opening hours, and the community donor clinics, [on the Scotblood website](#). All the songs with 'blood' in the title were less than soothing, so I've gone for '[Tell me it's not true](#)' from Blood Brothers.

If you want to request a song for tune of the day, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot