

COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus



Here is the brief for Friday 10 September 2021.

Proof of vaccine certification The Scottish Parliament has approved the use of Coronavirus vaccination certificates to enter some events and higher risk venues. The measure will come into effect on Friday 1 October. From Thursday 30 September, people will be able to use the NHS Scotland Covid Status App which also has a QR code, to access venues where certification is required. Venues will have a separate app to use for verification. Under 18s and adults who are ineligible for vaccination will be exempt.

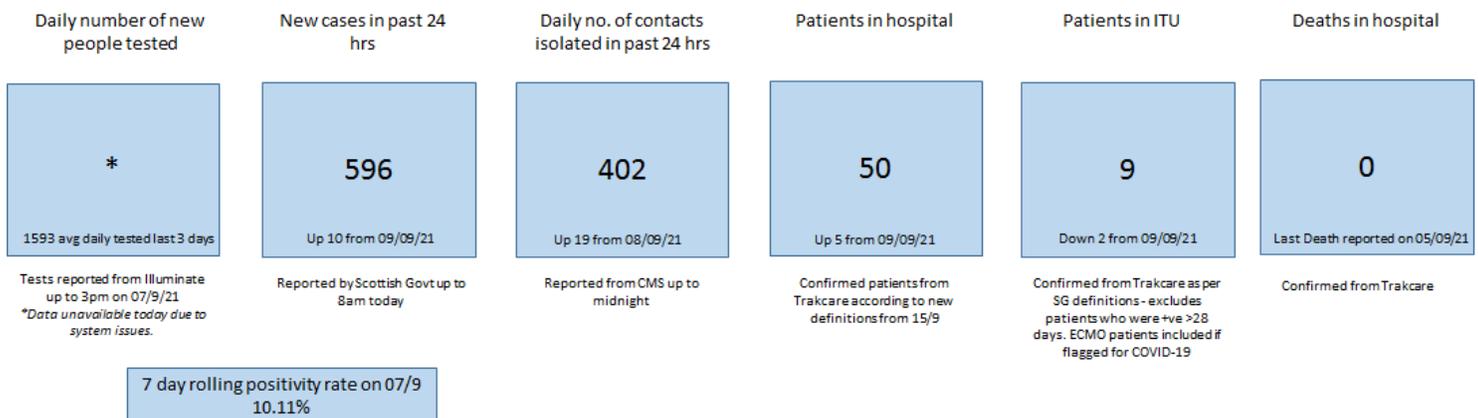
[It is currently possible to download \(or otherwise request\) a PDF of your vaccination status from the NHS Inform website.](#) This function will be switched off on 30 September. If you were vaccinated in the staff scheme or no longer have your 'blue envelope' letter with your unique user name, it is possible to recover this – details are available at the link above

Anyone unable or unwilling to use the App can request a secure paper record of vaccination, which cannot be edited, and which will come with enhanced security features such as thermodynamic ink to prevent forgery.

Proof of vaccination will be required to enter:

- nightclubs
- adult entertainment venues
- unseated indoor live events, with more than 500 people in the audience
- unseated outdoor live events, with more than 4,000 people in the audience
- any event, of any nature, which has more than 10,000 people in attendance

Grampian data The local update for today is shown below. A national update is available on the [Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#). Please note the data is incomplete due to the unavailability of national testing data. We apologise for any inconvenience.



Friday reflection – Long COVID treatment and research Our reflection this week focuses on Long COVID. [Firstly, we wanted to draw your attention to an article published in the Press & Journal, written by Professor Kay Cooper.](#) Prof Cooper is the Clinical Professor of Allied Health Professions at RGU and in her piece she explores the particular role physiotherapy is playing in Long COVID rehabilitation.

Secondly, there has been lots of attention paid to the impact COVID-19 has on adolescents recently. The largest study of Long COVID or post-COVID symptoms was reported in the media last week. It has not yet been peer-reviewed however we offer a summary of key points following an evidence summary prepared by (and with thanks to) Dr David Watkin, NHS Grampian public health registrar, and Professor Corri Black:

The BBC headline that '*it is nowhere near the scale feared*' is based on the lead author's comments about earlier studies that reported much higher prevalence. He concludes however '*they are not of trivial importance*'. This study is interesting because it took into account that children may have had symptoms simply because of the tough year they have had (i.e., not because of infection). The study found that 14% more children reported 3 or more symptoms at 12 weeks after COVID-19 compared to those without a positive test.

- The CLoCK study (Stephenson et al) aimed to describe post-COVID symptoms in a national sample of children and young people between the ages of 11 and 17 years, who had a PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV2 infection. Positive cases were found via Public Health England'. Around 50,000 were invited to participate
- A total of 6,804 children completed the questionnaires; overall response rate was 13.4%.
- Up to 14% of children and young people with SARS-CoV2 may have ongoing symptoms linked to the virus three months later (1 in 7).
- However, the authors have suggested that due to low response-rates and the likelihood of responder bias, the true number is likely to be in the range of 2-14%.
- There were 2 groups of children – those who had a PCR positive test for COVID and those who had not
- All children reported more symptoms at the second survey (at 3 months) but those who had PCR positive COVID at baseline were more likely to report symptoms (often fatigue, headache and breathlessness).
- Approximately 40% of ALL the children and young people in both groups reported feeling worried, sad or unhappy. The high prevalence of feelings of worry and unhappiness in both groups highlights the need for mental health support and services for these young people.

Strengths:

- Largest study of post-COVID symptoms in children to date.
- Uses child-reported symptoms.

Weaknesses:

- Low response rate, with possibility of responder bias (i.e. those with ongoing symptoms may be more likely to respond to the questionnaire).
- The study was conducted at a time when the Alpha variant of SARS-CoV2 was predominant.

PPE 3 week look ahead The 3 week look ahead is shown below. Given the steady state of PPE stocks in recent months, we will no longer include this each Friday. Instead, we will publish this only when issues are flagged with stock levels. If you still want to view this each week, you can do so by logging into Illuminate. To apply for access to the Covid PPE project, please submit the user access form found [here](#) to gram.tableauilluminate@nhs.scot Please note the sharing of information contained on Illuminate is subject to stringent terms and conditions.

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

	FFP3 Mask	type IIR mask	Covid Gowns	Theatre Gowns	Visors + Goggles	Aprons	Gloves
September 6, 20..	232,410	170,993	8,582	4,842	24,984	786,348	2,566,396
September 13, 2..	233,635	168,785	8,574	5,142	25,089	786,348	2,566,396
September 20, 2..	234,860	166,578	8,566	5,442	25,193	786,348	2,566,396
September 27, 2..	236,085	164,370	8,559	5,742	25,297	786,348	2,566,396

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

Orange Award It has been a bumper week for the Orange Award, with three handed out. Kinga Wardziak (domestic assistant in the Neonatal unit), Esther Bamfo (staff nurse, Ward 201/106B), and Pauline Mckenzie (communications assistant, Corporate Communications) were all presented with Orange Awards this week – our warmest congratulations to them all! If you want to nominate a colleague or team [you can fill in the online nomination form](#) or email gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot

Your Space Thank you to everyone who has emailed in recent weeks, with suggestions of fun things we could add to the brief (I do read them all, even if I don't always manage to reply!). Life is serious right now – has been serious for the last 18 months – which means we need to take every opportunity to have a giggle and be a bit daft when we can. So, we introduce Your Space. Every Friday, we'll have one or two fun items, suggested by you, to raise spirits and a smile.

We kick off with a suggestion from Sammi Fraser – just what do you call the third course of a meal? Is pudding or dessert? [We've set up a Mentimeter poll to get the definitive answer – get clicking!](#)

Meanwhile, Fiona Gibson, inspired by the photo we shared from the Beach Ballroom vaccine clinic earlier in the week, suggests a caption competition. Just what is Spiderman asking? Answers to the email address at the end of the brief! We'll share the funniest responses on Monday.



Tune of the day A big thank you to Viki Rafferty for alerting me to this previously undiscovered cover version gem – [Steps give us their take on The Slightest Touch](#), originally by 5 Star. If you're not familiar with 5 Star, they were billed as the UK's answer to the Jackson 5 in the 1980s, but their career petered out amidst lavish spending and ensuing bankruptcy. [Their original version is here, if you fancy a trip back in time – the fashion choices are quite something!](#)

We're always on the look-out for your suggestions of a great song to end the day (or start it, depending on when you read this brief) so just drop us a line via gram.communications@nhs.scot That's also your first port of call if you've got any queries or an item to share.