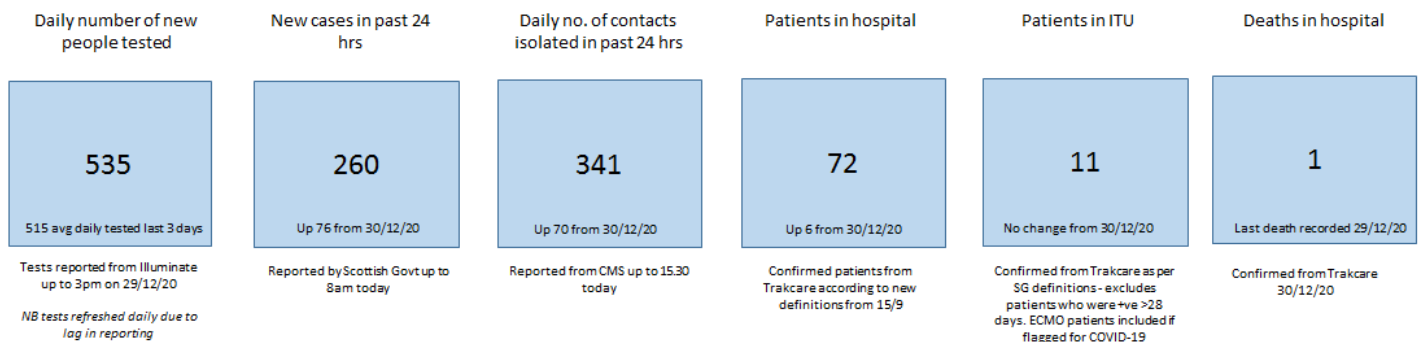


Here is the brief for Thursday 31 December 2020.

**COVID infections in Scotland** The number of infections in Scotland has hit another record high – **2622** – and we have set a new record in Grampian of **260** detected cases. The local data is shown below. If you click [here](#) you can visit the Public Health Scotland website, which includes neighbourhood figures for all local authority areas in Scotland. Please note this data will not be updated between 1-4 January.



**Contact tracing summary** The last day of the year seems like an appropriate time to be looking back at the work of the contact tracing team. The first cases were reported to the new Case Management System on 22 June, although many cases had been dealt with in the few months before the new system came in to use. However, since 22 June we have dealt with 6,055 index cases and 22,864 of their close contacts, an average of 3.8 contacts per case, although some cases have had over 50 contacts. This means that the team has spoken to almost 5% of the population of Grampian. If - despite repeated 'phone calls, text messages and other ways of trying to get in touch with people - it proves impossible to get a response the cases or contacts are recorded as 'failed'. Remarkably, out of all of the cases and contacts reported to us we have only 'failed' 30 index cases and 86 close contacts, 0.5% and 0.4% respectively. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the contact tracers and their amazing team leaders

**Use of Fluid Resistant Surgical Masks (FRSMs)** FRSMs are mandatory for inpatients unless they are exempt, or care is compromised.

- To maximise patient & staff safety, and minimise COVID-19 transmission opportunities, the use of fluid resistant surgical face masks (FRSMs) by inpatients was recently extended.
- FRSMs should now have been implemented for **all inpatients (including children age 5 and over)**, within the amber and red & green pathway, unless it is intolerable or causes the delivery of care to be compromised.
- Within the care environment these can be removed by patients in the following situations:
  - within single rooms when they are the sole occupant, e.g., staff are not in attendance / providing care
  - for sleeping or when eating, drinking or showering
- The use of a surgical facemask is recommended (if tolerated), for transfers between **all** pathways (red, amber and green) to minimise the dispersal of respiratory secretions and reduce environmental contamination.

If you have any queries or require further guidance please contact your local Infection Prevention & Control nurse.

## PPE 3 week look ahead

Supplies continue to be good across all key items:

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

	FFP3 Mask	type IIR mask	Covid Gowns	Theatre Gowns	Visors + Goggles	Aprons	Gloves
December 28, 20..	178,928	364,969	4,015	14,397	70,885	815,320	1,944,722
January 4, 2021	178,666	362,045	7,415	15,203	70,903	815,320	1,944,722
January 11, 2021	178,404	359,122	7,130	16,009	70,921	815,320	1,944,722
January 18, 2021	178,142	356,198	6,845	16,814	70,939	815,320	1,944,722

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

**Orange Award** Congratulations to RACH Staff Nurse Rosie Johnston on her recent Orange Award win! The Orange Award recognises individuals or teams working in health & social care and going above and beyond the call of duty. Making a nomination for the Orange Award is really straightforward; just click [here](#) or email [gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot).

**Thought for the day** It has been, in the words of the Revd. I.M. Jolly\*, a helluva year. I'm not going to dwell on the lows, except to acknowledge that each of you reading will have had days when you wondered how much more you could bear. And yet, here we are. Undoubtedly bruised and altered by what we have experienced and yet, still standing. There will have been highs too; not the highs you might have planned or hoped for (big birthday parties, weddings, holidays) but there will have been moments of joy, hilarity, delight, and hope. There is also the knowledge that our small, individual actions – staying at home, wearing a face covering, keeping our distance – have contributed to a greater collective good, protecting people we have never met. Thank you for everything you have done this year. We hope you all get the opportunity for some rest and recuperation over the next few days. If you are working, as ever, take care and stay safe.

\*The dour Reverend Jolly was a creation of comedian Rikki Fulton and featured in the sketch show Scotch & Wry, a staple of Hogmanay television in Scotland for many years. Many of the sketches can be found on YouTube and are well worth a look.

**Items for the brief?** If you have something you would like to be considered for inclusion in this brief, please send this to [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot). Messages should be clearly marked as 'Daily brief – for consideration'. Please be aware that space is limited, and items are prioritised based on subject matter and relevance to all staff groups.