

Here is the brief for Monday 8 February 2021.

**Chief Executive's update** This week Caroline has asked Paul Allen (Director of Facilities & eHealth) to talk about the impact of the pandemic on his team. As part of this, we also hear from ARI Catering Manager Stuart Donald – to watch the weekly update, just click [here](#). You can get in touch with Caroline at any time via [gram.grampianchiefexecutive@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.grampianchiefexecutive@nhs.scot)

**COVID-19 vaccination programme** We have a number of updates on this programme to share. Firstly, a huge thank you to all the clinic teams working today, and over the weekend, for all your efforts in keeping things running despite the poor weather. We have made significant progress in seeing people aged 75-79, and those aged 70-74 started to have appointments from today. Feedback from clinics is overwhelmingly positive and this is down to the work of teams on the ground.

Secondly, we want to share [this video](#), created by some of our black and minority ethnic colleagues in primary care. We know COVID-19 poses greater risk to people in minority ethnic communities; these doctors have united to film a supportive message, encouraging people to come forward for vaccination when their turn comes.

Next, many of you will already be familiar with the Green Book through your professional duties. It contains the latest information on vaccines and vaccination procedures, for vaccine preventable infectious diseases in the UK. Chapter 14a covers the COVID-19 vaccine. For those of you who do not regularly access this resource and are interested to learn more, it is available [here](#).

Finally, as you may have seen over the weekend, a dedicated website supporting the public vaccination programme is now up and running - [covidvaxgrampian.com](http://covidvaxgrampian.com). This will be regularly updated as the programme progresses.

**SIREN study update – more recruits needed** More than 100 of you have now signed up to take part in the SIREN study – UK wide research trying to understand if previous COVID-19 infection protects individuals against future re-infection. This is a great start, but many more volunteers are still required – see the table below:

|                     | Medical & Dental | Nursing & Midwifery | AHP | Support Services | Other | Total |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----|------------------|-------|-------|
| <b>NHS Grampian</b> | 128              | 515                 | 99  | 160              | 73    | 976   |

If you would like to take part in this study, you will need to be:

- A patient facing healthcare staff member who works in secondary care (hospitals & specialists) - this includes all staff who work in an area where patients are present.
- Willing to remain engaged with follow-up for one year, even if you move to another healthcare organisation.
- Able to attend the SIREN Hub (ARI concourse) for the duration of 12 months to give blood samples (monthly) and undergo a throat & nose swab (fortnightly)

**You do not need to have been previously confirmed to have COVID-19 to take part. You can participate in the study whether you have had the COVID-19 vaccine or not.**

As an organisation we are really keen to support this study, as it will inform our understanding of a range of issues. This includes (but isn't limited to) how many healthcare workers have been infected in recent months? What is the age range, gender, and background of those who've become unwell? What proportion of NHS staff have been exposed to the virus? Taking blood samples will improve our knowledge on which antibodies may be present and how they change over time. The study will also help us learn more about viruses from different people relate to each other. All of this information will prove vital in dealing with this virus, not just in Grampian, but globally.

If you are interested and want to find out more information or join the study, please contact the research team on: [gram.NHSGSiren@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.NHSGSiren@nhs.scot)

**Grampian data** The local figures for today (and over the weekend) and the 7 day rolling positivity rate are 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.

|           | Daily number of new people tested  | 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 06/02 | 329  | 33   | 66   | 71   | 6   | 0   |
| Sun 07/02 | 296  | 44   | 164  | 66   | 6   | 7   |
| Mon 08/02 | 485<br><small>370 avg daily tested last 3 days</small>   | 51<br><small>Up 7 from 07/02/21</small>                  | 102<br><small>Down 62 from 07/02/21</small>        | 66<br><small>No change from 07/02/21</small>   | 6<br><small>No change from 07/02/21</small>   | 0<br><small>Last recorded death 07/02</small> |
|           | <small>Tests reported from Illuminate up to 3pm on 06/02/21<br/>NB tests refreshed daily due to lag in reporting</small> | <small>Reported by Scottish Govt up to 8am today</small> | <small>Reported from CMS up to 15.30 today</small> | <small>Confirmed patients from Trakcare according to new definitions from 15/9</small> | <small>Confirmed from Trakcare as per SG definitions - excludes patients who were &gt;28 days. ECMO patients included if flagged for COVID-19</small> | <small>Confirmed from Trakcare</small>        |

**7 day rolling positivity rate on 07/2**  
3.31%

**Coaching for wellbeing** We care about your health and wellbeing and recognise during this time you may want a bit of support to help you focus and explore how to maintain this. If you want to be more active in supporting yourself and your team members or colleagues, at this time but not sure what to focus on, then Coaching for Wellbeing could be an option for you. Further information and easy access to register is available [here](#).

**PPE donning and doffing training** This training is available every Tuesday at 11am, via Teams. You can book your space by emailing [gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot)

**Thought for the day** As you may have seen on our social media accounts today, a primary 5 pupil at Skene Square school wrote a rap for NHS staff. Messages like this are a vital reminder that people in the north-east, of all ages, recognise and appreciate everything we are doing:



**Questions to ask? Information to share?** If you have particular questions – or are aware of questions coming from friends and family – please share them with us. We may not be able to answer every question and it may take us time to get a proper answer, but we will endeavour to respond and share the answers. You can get in touch with us via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot). Please also use that email address if you have items for consideration for future briefs.