

COVID-19 Brief

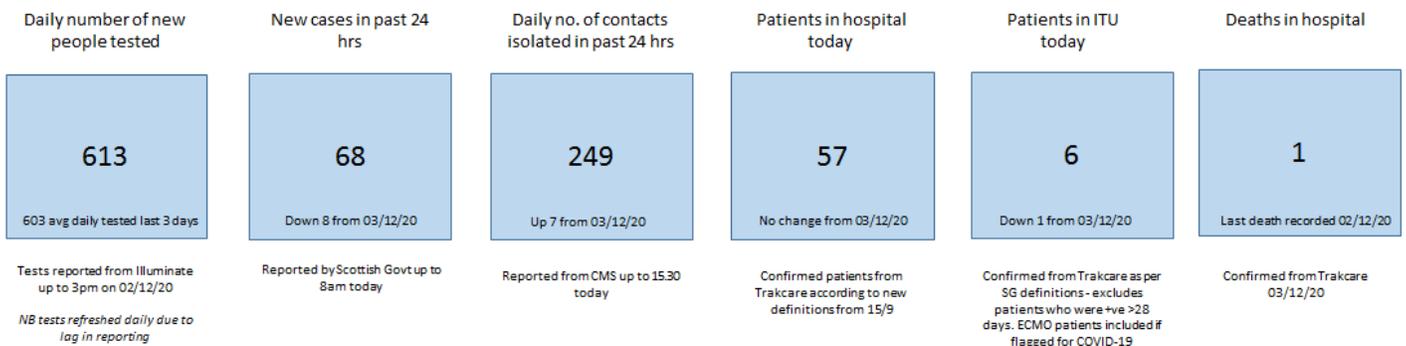
coronavirus



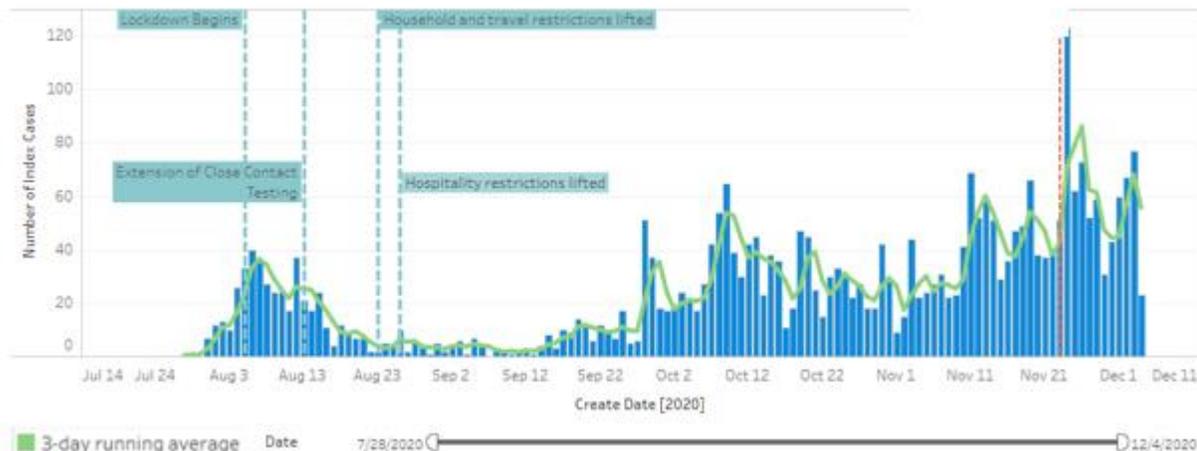
Here is the brief for Friday 4 December 2020.

COVID-19 vaccine – staff training support For staff supporting the COVID-19 vaccination programme there are a number of training requirements which need to be addressed. A copy of the training algorithm and also the training record which will need to be completed can be found on the Practice Education intranet pages [here](#) (networked devices only)

Grampian figures Today's local figures are shown below. If you are interested in the situation elsewhere in Scotland, click [here](#) to see all the data published by Public Health Scotland.



Case numbers and context Please keep playing your part! The basic good practices we've all adopted for the past 9 months really matter and make a big difference, so keep going! There has been an increase in new cases of COVID-19 in the north east since October (particularly in the last month) and there is no sign of improvement. Importantly, many of these positive cases cannot be connected to known situations and outbreaks which makes it difficult to contain the situation through contact tracing. So please keep doing what you've been doing well – keep your number of contacts low, avoid crowds, wear a face covering and wash your hands frequently.



Staff focus groups A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the staff focus groups we held earlier this year. We are planning to run another set of these, this time with a special emphasis on staff for whom English isn't their first language. The north-east is a culturally diverse region and we need (and want) to ensure we are communicating our messages effectively with all communities. If you would be

interested in participating in this focus group, please get in touch with Derek Cox (derek.cox@nhs.scot). Please share this message with any members of your team that you think would be interested.

PPE 3 week look ahead Stocks continue to be healthy across all required products:

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

	FFP3 Mask	type IIR mask	Covid Gowns	Theatre Gowns	Visors + Goggles	Aprons	Gloves
November 30, 2020	169,481	396,120	5,963	9,532	43,409	572,634	1,895,585
December 7, 2020	168,899	393,681	5,761	10,290	42,643	572,634	1,895,585
December 14, 2020	168,317	391,242	5,560	11,047	41,878	572,634	1,895,585
December 21, 2020	167,735	388,804	5,358	11,805	41,112	572,634	1,895,585

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

Orange Award We have two Orange Awards to celebrate this week; the physiotherapy team at Royal Cornhill Hospital and Dr Mark Burrell (acting clinical lead at Maxillofacial outpatients) – huge congratulations to them! If you want to nominate a colleague (or a group of them) for an Orange Award, just click [here](#) or email gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot.

And now it's time for some festive information....

Christmas decorations and safety This year, perhaps more than any other, our spirits need lifting and what better way to do this than cracking out the Christmas decorations? At the risk of sounding like the Grinch (or Scrooge!) there are a few things you need to bear in mind to maintain the safety & cleanliness of our workplaces. These top tips come courtesy of our fire safety and Infection Prevention & Control colleagues:

Trees

- * Artificial trees are fine, provided they can be confirmed as flame retardant and carry the appropriate CE or Kite mark.
- * Fibre optic trees/decorations are a no-no. The base units generate a lot of heat which can lead to scorch marks (at best) or near misses (at worst).
- * Real trees are not permitted in any NHS Grampian premises.
- * Trees must not block entrances/exits, any communal stairwells or corridors, or any other routes of emergency exit in the event of a fire.
- * Trees (and any other decorations) must not obstruct firefighting equipment or emergency call points.
- * Remember your physical distancing! Your tree should not get in the way of measures put in place to keep us all safely apart.

Decorations

- * Do not use candles or other naked flames
- * Do not use cotton wool or polystyrene decorations
- * Do not use wax-coated paper for decorations.
- * Do not use decorative light shades which are used to replace ordinary shades.
- * Decorations are not to be fastened to or hung from lighting pendants.
- * Decorations are not to be placed on or near to heaters.
- * Decorations you usually place on shelves, window ledges or other flat surfaces are a no-no this year unfortunately, as they will hinder the increased frequency cleaning regime
- * Hanging decorations should be kept minimal and outwith bed / treatment spaces

If you are breaking out the fairy lights, please only use non-rechargeable battery LED lights. All other types of light are considered to be a fire risk and should not be used.

Gifts for patients The NHS Grampian Endowment Trustees appreciate that this has been an extraordinary year and wanted to provide gifts for all patients who are in hospital on Christmas Day to mark 2020. Rather than provide gifts from large retailers, the Trustees have commissioned keepsake items from local craftspeople and artists. Gifts include handmade Christmas baubles, keyrings, small prints and books originally commissioned by the Sandpiper Trust. In this way, the Endowment Fund is also supporting micro businesses in Grampian and a local charity. Local management teams have been contacted to confirm gift numbers - email gram.charities@nhs.scot with any queries. John Clark Group has offered to help with drivers and vans to make the deliveries on 17 & 18 December to our hospitals throughout Grampian – our thanks to them.

Christmas shopping If you are hitting the high street this weekend to purchase gifts – or you just need to get to the supermarket for essentials – we've developed this handy guide to help you halt the spread of COVID-19:



Christmas playlist Thank you so much to everyone who offered suggestions for our Christmas playlist! There were one or two surprises in amongst the festive standards and hopefully there is a little something for everyone. You can give it a listen, via Spotify, [here](#).

Thought for the day – have the Christmas that's right for you This is a time of year that always comes with a lot of pressure. Advertisers and influencers would have you believe there is a 'right' way to celebrate and it usually involves spending a lot of money and sharing scores of photos and videos of the 'best day ever'. The reality for many of us can be quite different. You may have experienced bereavements or separations. Your family situation may be difficult or strained. You may be far from home. You may not celebrate Christmas at all! This year we have all the added complications the pandemic has thrown our way. To bubble or not to bubble – what are the risks and is it worth it? We can't (and wouldn't try to) make those decisions for you. We can direct you back to [the guidance](#) from the Scottish Government on the festive easing of restrictions to aid your decision making. We can also say this: mark this period in the way that is right and safe for you. Do not feel pressured or pushed into anything. Take the time to rest and recuperate.

We hope you have a restful weekend; for those of you working, stay safe!

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. 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.