

Here is the brief for Tuesday 14 September 2021.

COVID-19 vaccination – booster programme The JCVI has today published its recommendations on a COVID-19 vaccination booster programme. [You can read the full statement on the UK Government website](#); their key advice is as follows:

“JCVI advises that, for the 2021 COVID-19 booster vaccine programme, individuals who received vaccination in Phase 1 of the COVID-19 vaccination programme (priority groups 1 to 9) should be offered a third dose COVID-19 booster vaccine. This includes:

- those living in residential care homes for older adults
- all adults aged 50 years or over
- frontline health and social care workers
- all those aged 16 to 49 years with underlying health conditions that put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19 (as set out in the [green book](#)), and adult carers
- adult household contacts of immunosuppressed individuals

“As most younger adults will only have received their second COVID-19 vaccine dose in late summer or early autumn, the benefits of booster vaccination in this group will be considered at a later time when more information is available. In general, younger, healthy individuals may be expected to generate stronger vaccine-induced immune responses from primary course vaccination compared to older individuals. Pending further evidence otherwise, booster doses in this population may not be required in the near term.

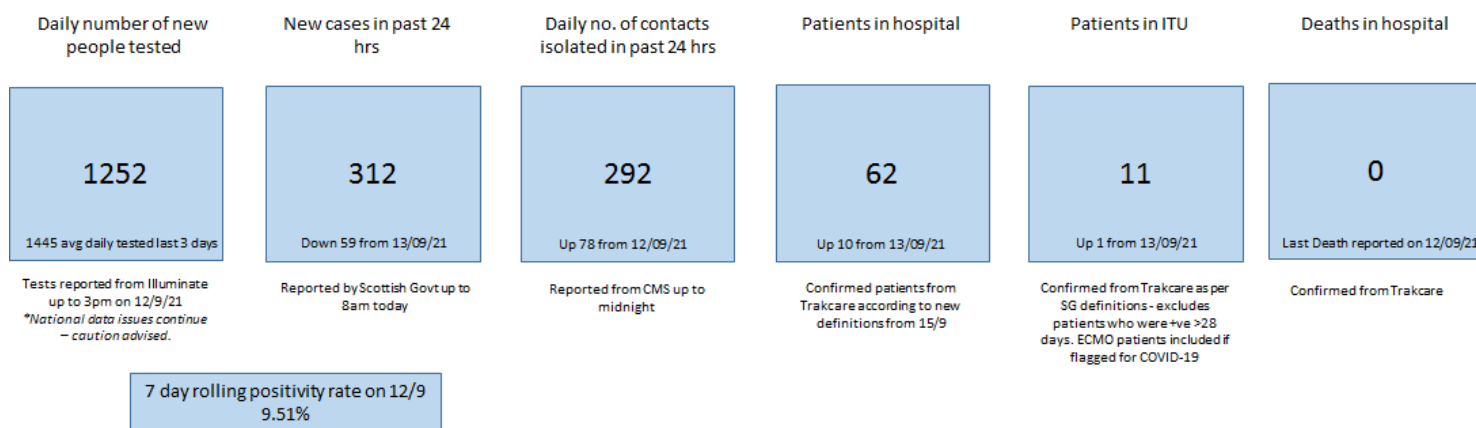
“JCVI will review data as they emerge and consider further advice at the appropriate time on booster vaccinations in younger adult age groups, children aged 12 to 16 years with underlying health conditions, and women who are pregnant.”

The JCVI has recommended that the booster takes the form of a Pfizer jab, regardless of which vaccine was used for the first two doses. A half dose of the Moderna vaccine may be used as an alternative. Astra Zeneca may be used where mRNA vaccines (i.e., Pfizer, Moderna) cannot be used.

Autumn/Winter vaccination - staff programme The booking system for health & social care staff is expected to open next week. Appointments will be available across Grampian, and you can book into the location most convenient to you. We have permission to administer both ‘flu and the COVID-19 booster at the same time, therefore the appointment will allot time for both. Those staff eligible for a COVID-19 booster (please see the item on the JCVI recommendations above) should note that at least six months should have elapsed between your second dose and a booster injection.

COVID-19 vaccination – 12-15 year olds The Scottish Government has confirmed it will accept the recommendations of the UK Chief Medical Officers, and offer a COVID-19 vaccination to all those aged 12-15. Information will be made available in the coming days to allow those in this age group to come to an informed decision, in discussion with their parents or carers. From Monday 20 September, they will be able to attend drop-in clinics and appointment letters will be issued from the following week.

Grampian data The local update for today is shown below. A national update is available on the [Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).



DipHE Wellbeing & Enablement - Information Sessions, October 2021 NHS Grampian, in conjunction with Robert Gordon University, will soon be offering current Healthcare Support Workers the opportunity to apply for the second cohort of the DipHE Wellbeing & Enablement course. Prior to applications opening, two information events have been organised. These events are not only for those thinking about applying, but also for managers who wish to support a Wellbeing & Enablement Practitioner in their area. The events will take place, via Teams, as follows:

- Monday 4 October, 11am-12noon
- Wednesday 27 October, 10-11am

To book your place, please email gram.practiceeducation@nhs.scot More information can be found on the [Practice Education intranet pages](#) (networked devices only)

Aberdeenshire HSCP appoint new Chief Finance & Business Officer Chris Smith has been appointed to the role of Chief Finance & Business Officer for Aberdeenshire HSCP. Chris is currently the Finance Business Partner for Infrastructure Services in Aberdeenshire Council. Thanks go to Alan Sharp, NHS Grampian Deputy Director of Finance, and Alan Wood, Director of Infrastructure Services at Aberdeenshire Council, for their support to the partnership to date.

Pre-retirement courses The dates below are now available for booking, via Turas. This course is for anyone considering leaving employment on normal, early or ill health retirement, or taking flexible retirement. All courses take place between 1-3pm and are delivered online by Affinity Financial Awareness (AFA), one of the largest providers of independent financial advice to public sector employees. They are registered and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and responsible for any financial advice given.

- 15 September/8 October/26 November/8 December (these sessions last 2 hours)
- 29 September/25 October/13 December (these sessions last 2.5 hours)

Tune of the day Jill Strathdee taps into something very real for me (and I am sure many of you) with today's suggestion. After a(nother) long day of Teams meetings, what else could it be but [Everybody's Talkin' by Harry Nilsson](#)?

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.