

Here is the brief for Friday 15 January 2021.

COVID-19 vaccine There are a few things that might need some clarification about the vaccines:

- The immune response is not immediate. Some level of effectiveness can occur twelve days from the first injection but it can take up to four weeks to develop its maximum effectiveness. This is the same as with all vaccines. It is not peculiar to the COVID-19 vaccines.
- Getting the vaccine does not guarantee that you won't catch COVID-19. It does not fully protect 100% of people, however, people who develop the infection after the first dose of the vaccine will have a milder illness. In the trials none of the people in the vaccinated group who developed the illness required to be admitted to hospital.
- It is possible that a few people will develop COVID-19 a few days after being vaccinated. This is because these people will have been incubation the infection at the time of the vaccination. It does NOT mean that the vaccine caused the infection.
- People who have had a previous positive COVID-19 test should accept being vaccinated. Any immunity conferred by having the infection is uncertain and variable. Getting the vaccine will boost what immunity you have from the infection.

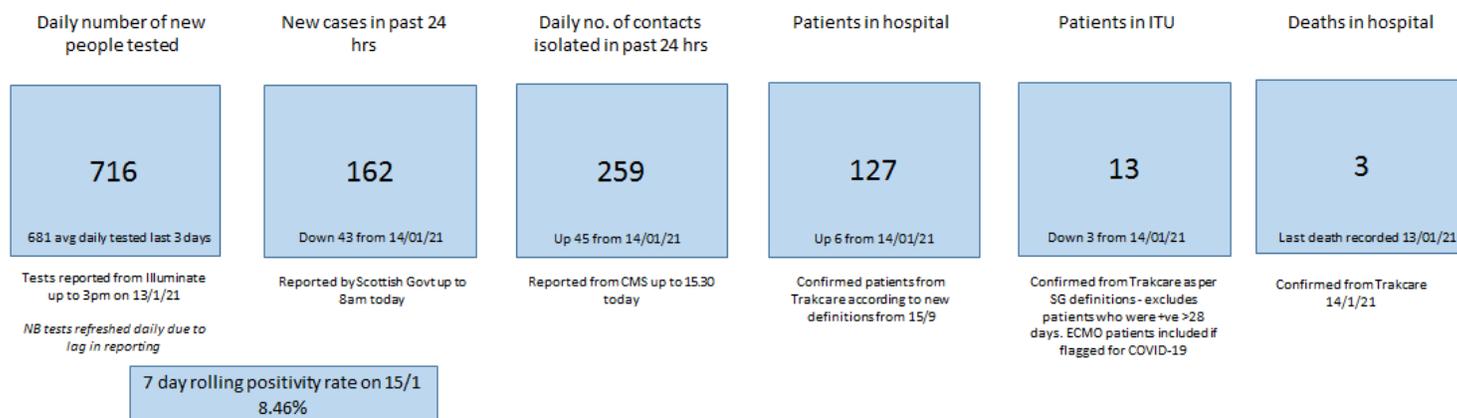
COVID-19 vaccine – public programme Since the Pfizer/BioNtech vaccine was approved and delivered to the health board in early December, the focus has been on offering immunisation to the vaccination team, front-facing health & social care staff, older people care home residents and their staff. This is in line with the priorities laid out by the Joint Committee on Vaccinations & Immunisations (JCVI) and agreed by the Scottish Government. Strong progress has been made in this area and we are confident all eligible candidates in these groups will have been offered their first dose by the end of January.

Wave 2 of our vaccination plan sees us start to offer immunisation to the wider community. Some small clinics have already taken place this week and these will expand in line with available vaccine supplies. This will see our over 80s population (those at home, in sheltered housing, and currently in hospital) be offered the injection. As with the 'flu immunisation programme, we will get in touch with them to offer them an appointment. They should not contact their GP or other healthcare professional but wait for contact to be made from the NHS. Our current plan works on the basis that we will offer jobs to people aged 70 and over, and those who are clinically extremely vulnerable, throughout February, with the plan widening out further as vaccine supplies and staffing allow. Our order of priority following the over 70s is those who are identified as clinically extremely vulnerable according to JCVI guidance, those aged 65-69, those aged 16-64 with underlying health conditions, those aged 60-64, then 55-59 and concluding with those aged 50-54 during April. After that, the programme will fully extend to all other adults.

This whole programme hinges on two key factors: the availability of vaccine supplies and the recruitment of staff. We are recruiting right now and expect to take on 100 WTE vaccinators (in addition to the vaccinators we already have working for us) and 280 Healthcare Support Workers. We will need to undertake further recruitment if we are to meet the ambition of carrying out 50,000 vaccinations per week. The current plan will see both the Pfizer/BioNTech and Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccines be used. As other vaccines are approved, and stocks become available, these will be incorporated into the programme. All vaccines are rigorously tested and checked before being approved by the Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

Deployment – staff survey We would like to hear from you, if you were deployed from your substantive role to help in another area during Operation Rainbow. We would greatly value and appreciate your answers being really honest with enough detail so we can learn from what worked well and what didn't from your experience. We would like to thank you in advance for taking part, as this will ensure that staff being deployed during Operation Snowdrop receive the best support possible. The survey link is available [here](#).

Grampian data The local figures for today are shown below. Following feedback, we now include information on the positivity rate in Grampian. Some of you have asked how this figure is arrived at; our calculations follow the government definitions i.e., positive tests in a 7 day period and divides it by the total number of tests in the same period.



If you click [here](#) you can visit the Public Health Scotland website, which includes neighbourhood figures for all local authority areas in Scotland.

PPE 3 week look ahead Supplies continue to hold steady 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
January 11, 2021	165,599	427,949	14,948	11,753	89,726	761,066	1,912,452
January 18, 2021	165,008	427,403	15,012	12,410	90,287	761,066	1,912,452
January 25, 2021	164,416	426,856	15,077	13,066	90,848	761,066	1,912,452
February 1, 2021	163,825	426,309	15,141	13,723	91,409	761,066	1,912,452



Stores Cages To increase speed of deliveries it is vital that cages are returned to Central Stores as soon as possible. Areas within Foresterhill Health Campus should contact their local porters for collection. If you have cages awaiting collection outwith Foresterhill, please contact the Transport Department gram.transportlogistics@nhs.scot for uplift.

Orange Award Our warmest congratulations to Lewis Craig, one of our administrators based at Woodhill House, who received his Orange Award today! You can nominate a colleague or team for the Orange Award by completing [this short form](#) or emailing gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot.

Step count challenge Get some exercise this winter by taking part in NHS Grampian's Myhealthyworkplace Step Count Challenge. It's teams of 5 for 4 weeks starting on Monday 18th January. There will be prizes! For more information contact james.norman@nhs.scot or see Tuesday's Brief. Remember to stay safe and follow all COVID-19 restrictions when taking part in the step count challenge.

Thought for the day Today we're offering some things for you to reflect on over the weekend. Being part of the health & social care response to a global pandemic is hard and none of us will get it right all the time. We have to acknowledge our own limitations, and the limitations of those around us, and remember to treat each other with dignity and kindness. Ask yourself, have I acted professionally throughout this? Have I shown leadership? Have I treated my colleagues, those I manage, and patients thoughtfully and respectfully? In short, have I shown them the same behaviour I would expect to be shown to me? When things have been difficult and emotions have taken over, have I sought to make amends afterwards? Do I know myself well enough to understand the things that will aggravate me, and do I have a plan for managing that? 'Unloading' on someone else in the heat of the moment may feel like a release, but what impact does that have on the person being 'unloaded' upon?

As ever, we wish those of you not working over the weekend time to relax and recharge. If you are on shift, take care and stay safe. For everyone, know that your work is seen and valued.

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. Please also use that email address if you have items for consideration for future briefs.