

Here is the brief for Monday 7 December 2020.

How to access the COVID-19 vaccination – update Health & Social Care staff are among the first people to be offered the vaccination. This is because you are more likely to be exposed to COVID-19 at work and are at much higher risk of repeated exposure to the infection. The vaccine is the best way to protect yourself from COVID-19, and if you do catch COVID-19 it reduces your chances of developing serious or life-threatening symptoms. NHS Scotland will only use a vaccine if it meets the required standards of safety and effectiveness. All medicines, including vaccines, are tested for safety and effectiveness before they are allowed to be used. The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has approved it for supply in the UK as the expected standards of safety, quality and efficacy have been met.

How is the COVID-19 vaccine given? You will be given an injection in your upper arm. You will need two doses, the second around 28 days after the first dose. During your vaccination, strict infection prevention and control measures will be in place.

What do I do next? Information leaflets have been developed for healthcare and social care staff – please read the leaflet relevant to you:

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/media/2884/healthcare-worker-covid-19-vaccine-leaflet.pdf>

<https://www.publichealthscotland.scot/media/2886/social-care-worker-covid-19-vaccine-leaflet.pdf>

How to get your vaccine The vaccine remains the best protection against COVID-19, helping to protect you, your patients and your family. We want to encourage all of you, and particularly those at higher risk of coming into contact with patients with COVID-19 or who are in groups at greater risk of complications during a COVID infection to take up the opportunity of vaccination.

As of **Thursday 10 December** staff will be able to be vaccinated through the Peer to Peer arrangements. There are now over 500 staff trained in giving vaccines in a safe and efficient way. Please check with your Senior Charge Nurse or line manager if there are trained vaccinators within your area. We will provide regular updates on how and where to access Peer to Peer as more staff are being trained every week. In addition to peer to peer vaccination, we have also set up a number of clinics that will run over the next month. ARI clinics will start on **Monday 14 December** and take place in Ward 302 (Orange Zone, opposite the Rotunda foyer) Details on dates/times are available below. **Further information on the clinics for staff at Royal Cornhill Hospital and the three health & social care partnerships (this includes Woodend Hospital and Dr Gray's Hospital) will be confirmed shortly.**

To book a slot to get your vaccinations (remember you need two, around 28 days apart) please complete [this booking form](#). It is essential that all of the information requested is included. You do not need to have access to a networked device to complete the form. If you don't have access to a computer, mobile phone or other device you can ask a colleague or your line manager to book on your behalf. There is a telephone booking line for individuals who can't access the email or need assistance in completing the form **only** (0345 337 6390). Forms completed in this way will not get any form of priority, they will be added to the other forms that are sent electronically and dealt with in a timely manner.

Clinic dates/times for ARI only are available [here](#).

Chief Executive's update You can watch the latest video update from Caroline Hiscox [here](#). In it, she reflects on the pressure we are all feeling across health & social care at present. She also discusses the redesign of urgent care and the recent meeting of the NHS Grampian board. Caroline is really keen to hear from all of you about your experiences; you can get in touch with her via gram.grampianchiefexecutive@nhs.scot

Grampian figures Local data for today and the weekend can be viewed below. If you are interested in the situation elsewhere in Scotland, click [here](#) to see all the data published by Public Health 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 5/12	527	69	393	57	6	1 4/12/20
Sun 6/12	500	48	144	58	8	1
Mon 7/12	469 499 avg daily tested last 3 days	65 Up 17 from 06/12/20	322 Up 178 from 06/12/20	60 Up 2 from 06/12/20	4 Down 4 from 06/12/20	1 Last death recorded 05/12/20
	Tests reported from Illuminate up to 3pm on 05/12/20 NB tests refreshed daily due to lag in reporting	Reported by Scottish Govt up to 8am today	Reported from CMS up to 15.30 today	Confirmed patients from Trakcare according to new definitions from 15/9	Confirmed from Trakcare	Confirmed from Trakcare 06/12/20

Everyone Matters Pulse Survey – results – a message from Tom Power (Director of People & Culture) “The Grampian and National results for the Everyone Matters Pulse Survey undertaken in September have now been published. These results give us some further insight into your experiences during the first 6 months of COVID-19. Whilst this was an anxious time for so many of us, the majority of staff continued to feel supported and cared about, receiving help and support from other teams and services when they needed it.

“It also shows us that our staff are having some of the most positive experiences within Health and Social Care in Scotland, at a time of unprecedented difficulty for all health and care organisations. Most staff would recommend ours as good organisations to work for, which is fantastic and something we can all be proud of. But we know that things remain challenging, and as a System Leadership Team we are not complacent about these results. Enhancing our support for staff health and wellbeing as a key element of experience at work is a key priority for Operation Snowdrop, and as Prof Caroline Hiscox relayed to the Board last week, ensuring you feel safe, supported, respected and cared about is her top priority as Chief Executive. As part of this it is important that we continue to reflect on your views, considering the areas where we can work together to continually improve experiences.

“For those who received an electronic copy of the questionnaire you will have received an email with a link your Directorate/HSCP results. Managers of teams who received paper questionnaires please ensure results are shared with your team members. A copy of the Grampian and national results can be found [here](#).”

In addition, apologies for any issues you may have experienced in accessing the results. This was a national issue and outwith our control.

Staff focus groups As mentioned in Friday's brief, we intend to hold another set of staff focus groups, and this time we are particularly seeking involvement from those of you for whom English isn't your first language. We want to ensure our messages are as accessible as possible and know your input and insight will be invaluable. 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.

Thought for the day – knowledge is power There is a lot of information in today's brief about the COVID-19 vaccine. Please take the time to read it carefully, including the leaflets prepared for health & social care staff. In common with all immunisation programmes it is not compulsory to take this vaccine. Obviously, we are keen to see as many people as possible take up the opportunity, but we are clear that this decision rests with you. We hope the information provided today (and in previous briefs) helps you make an informed decision.

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.