

Here is the brief for Tuesday 17 August 2021.

**Asymptomatic Lateral Flow Testing** Now that most restrictions have been lifted, we remain thankful to all those who are already participating in our twice weekly asymptomatic testing programme. Vaccinations alongside testing are our best defence in preventing further spread of the virus. It helps keep us all safe and can prevent colleagues from having to isolate.

Remember twice weekly asymptomatic testing helps keep us all safe. For those of you that haven't yet signed-up, we would appeal to you to take a few minutes to read over the following quick reference guide:

*Why should I do regular LFDs?*

- To identify asymptomatic healthcare workers. One in three with COVID-19 have no symptoms but are spreading the virus.
- Even if community prevalence is low, we must stay vigilant so as to avoid any clusters especially in a healthcare environment.
- Testing in this way allows asymptomatic, but positive, staff members to self-isolate immediately, reducing the risk of further spread to others – including your patients and colleagues.

*What's the point if I am vaccinated?*

- It is even more important now you are vaccinated as you are more likely to be asymptomatic – infection will be harder to identify without testing.
- By testing we can monitor the prevalence of the virus in the community.

*Is LFD testing accurate?*

- Yes, Lateral Flow Tests have a sensitivity of 76.8 % meaning they identify more than 7/10 positive cases. This rises to over 95 % for those with high viral loads who are most likely to be infectious.

*What's the point of recording negative results?*

- We need a clear picture of COVID-19 rates within the community. This includes reporting negative test results, of which most tests are.
- Try the new and improved ePortal. It is so much easier to record your results! Follow this link to access the ePortal: [covidtestingportal.scot](https://covidtestingportal.scot.nhs.uk)

If you haven't already done so, please [click here](#) to request your LFD kit.

If you have any questions or problems registering for your kit please contact <mailto:gram.staffcovid19testing@nhs.scot>

Thank you for your continued support and for choosing to test!

**Aberdeen FC tickets** In yesterday's brief, Aberdeen FC offered free pairs of tickets, to NHS and health care workers, for an upcoming match against Ross County - applications closed earlier today, as announced in a global email, after an "overwhelming response" from you all.

The club had initially set aside 150 pairs of tickets but received 250 applications – and we're delighted to reveal the club will be ensuring that each applicant gets to attend the game, as part of its #StillStandingFree campaign.

A spokesperson for AFC said: "We are thrilled that we will be able to welcome 500 of our health care heroes, and members of their family and friends, to Pittodrie on August 29.

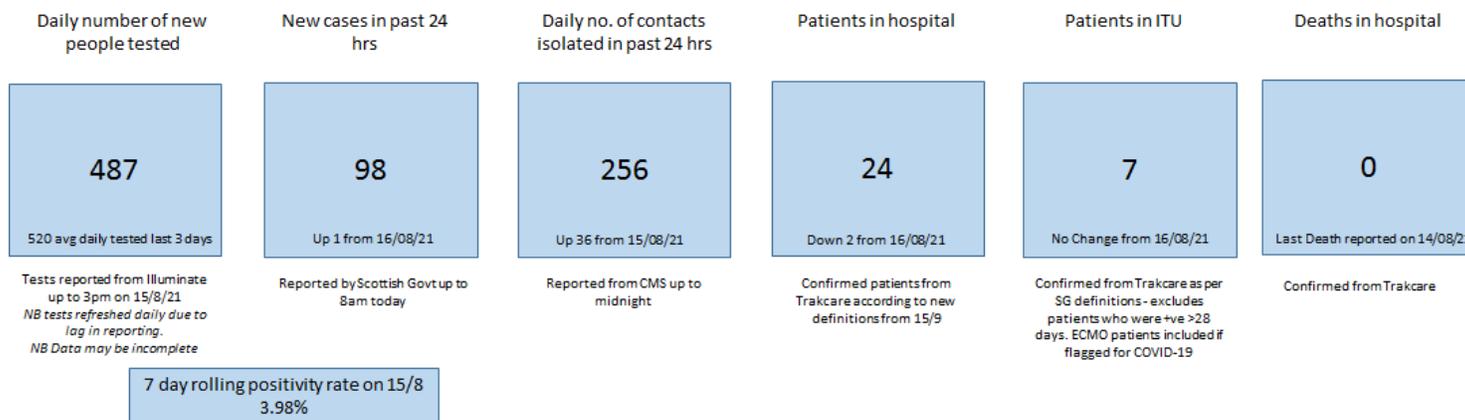
"The game will be the first opportunity we've had to formally say 'thank you' to NHS and health care workers for their efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic, with the lifting of restrictions allowing us to pack out Pittodrie for the first time in 17 months.

"The match, being promoted as our 'homecoming', will see us pay tribute to NHS Grampian and our key workers, along with some special guests and entertainment, including AFC Women parading their SWPL2 champions trophy.

"We can't wait to see you all later this month. #StandFree and always be #ProudToBeNHSG"

*PS Don't forget to take your LFD test ahead of attending any event to keep us all safe.*

**Grampian data** The local update for today (and across the weekend), including the 7-day rolling positivity rate, is shown below. As a reminder, this rate is arrived at by dividing the number of positive tests in the past 7 days by the number of tests carried out in the past 7 days. Repeat tests are included in both categories. The figure for the "daily number of new people tested" is only for the number of tests for people who have not been tested previously.



A national update is available on the [Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).

**National Innovation Event** NHS Grampian Innovation Hub is delighted to host the next National Innovation Event - Igniting Innovation on the August 25. Exploring the role of innovation test beds, the event will consider what is needed to deliver innovation in Health and Social care services, showcase success, and encourage collaboration across the health innovation community.

Our event will include workshops on key innovation topics chosen by you, AI successes and a National update from Dr David Lowe, Clinical Director for Innovation. Please register to attend the event by clicking [Register Now](#) and join the conversation via #HSCInnoScot

**Bicycle Security Marking** Bicycle theft has always been an issue, and the Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated this with a major increase in the demand for bikes. Representatives from Police Scotland will be on the Foresterhill site on September 15 from 10am to 1.15pm to security mark and register staff members bikes completely free of charge.

This will be an appointment only service, please email [james.norman@nhs.scot](mailto:james.norman@nhs.scot) to book or for more information. Appointments are every quarter of an hour from 10am.

If you are not getting a bicycle security tagged, then the police will still be available to chat about crime prevention in general.

**Tune of the day** Today Lynne Dickson is slotting 20p into the NHS Grampian jukebox (yes that is indeed how we are funding the Comms Christmas night out). She has requested the 1979 hit [We Are Family](#) by Sister Sledge because: "It is by staff working together as a team, wherever they are placed, and looking out for each other's well-being, (a simple how are you doing means such a lot) that we have managed to get to where we are now".

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](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot) That's also your first port of call if you've got any queries or an item to share.