

# COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus



Here is the brief for Monday 17 May 2021.

**Working at home** As we begin to remobilise services in a structured way that reflects the ongoing risk posed by COVID-19, NHS Grampian remains committed to keeping you safe and supporting your wellbeing. The SLT has therefore taken the decision to maintain its current position of asking everyone that is able to do so, to continue working at home until the end of the calendar year (31 December 2021). Moving out of a national lockdown, with fewer restrictions, brings the need for even greater individual and collective responsibility. So, unless it is essential for you to come into the workplace to carry out your duties, you should continue to work at home. We hope that this clarity is welcome and allows you to forward plan both professionally and personally. The situation will be reviewed in August and a further update for 2022 will be shared at that time.

**Travel restrictions** A reminder that travel restrictions have been put in place for Moray, while the area remains in Level 3. There should only be travel into and out of the area for permitted reasons, such as attending working or supporting a vulnerable person. Restrictions for Moray will be reviewed at the end of this week.

**Grampian data** The local figures for today (and over the weekend) and the 7-day rolling positivity rate are 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, whereas the figures we show here only record new tests.

	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 15/05	411	26	162	10	1	0
Sun 16/05	109	16	51	10	1	0
Mon 17/05	138 <small>219 avg daily tested last 3 days</small>	15 <small>Down 1 from 16/05/21</small>	47 <small>Down 4 from 16/05/21</small>	10 <small>No change from 16/05/21</small>	1 <small>No change from 16/05/21</small>	0 <small>Last recorded death 23/04</small>
	<small>Tests reported from Illuminate up to 3pm on 15/05/21 NB tests refreshed daily due to lag in reporting</small>	<small>Reported by Scottish Govt up to 8am today</small>	<small>Reported from CMS up to 15:30 today</small>	<small>Confirmed patients from Trakcare according to new definitions from 15/9</small>	<small>Confirmed from Trakcare as per SG definitions - excludes patients who were &gt;28 days. ECMO patients included if flagged for COVID-19</small>	<small>Confirmed from Trakcare</small>
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                     7 day rolling positivity rate on 15/5 0.78%                 </div>					

The Public Health Scotland daily dashboard is available to view [here](#). You can use this to see what is happening in local authorities and at neighbourhood level.

**Endowment fund - £10 social fund** Last year we surveyed you to ask your views on the £10 which staff can claim towards a social event with colleagues. The majority of those who completed the survey opted for last year's £10 to be added to this year's £10 so that £20 can be claimed this year. Usually, the Endowment Fund would accept claims from April onwards, but this is being delayed while there are still restrictions on the numbers who can get together. Depending on advice later in the year, the Trustees will consider the timing for inviting claims at their September meeting with a view to running the scheme from October 2021 to March 2022.

**PPE donning and doffing training** This training is available every Tuesday at 11am, via MS Teams. You can book your space by emailing [gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot)

**National Smile Month 17<sup>th</sup> May – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021** [National Smile Month](#) starts today, and so the Oral Health team would like you to consider how the past year has affected your oral health. It has probably been over a year since you saw your dentist, and research has shown that lockdown made us all snack more and be less regular with tooth brushing. More worrying, mouth cancer referral rates have fallen significantly. It's simple to look after your teeth and oral health at home:

- Keep snacking and sugary foods to a minimum.
- Brush your teeth twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste and spit, don't rinse.
- If you notice any changes in your mouth that don't go away after three weeks, such as a lump or swelling, mouth ulcers that won't heal, white or red patches or anything else out of the ordinary, see your dentist or GP. You can find more information about mouth cancer [here](#).

If you don't have a dentist, call the NHS Grampian [DIAL](#) helpline on 0345 45 65 990. They can give you details of NHS dentists close to you, give you dental advice and arrange an emergency appointment. If you have an acute dental emergency at night or the weekend, call NHS 24 on 111.

**Tune of the day** We hope your Monday went as well as it possibly could! To round off the day – or perhaps get you ready for a night shift – today's tune comes via Emma Williams (Advanced Public Health Practitioner) and she's struck gold with [this number](#) from T-Rex. Who doesn't love to boogie?

**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](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot). Please also use that email address if you have items for consideration for future briefs.