

Here is the brief for Friday 30 April 2021.

COVID-19 in India Everyone will have seen the distressing scenes currently unfolding in India, with cases of the virus surging and vital medical equipment in desperately short supply. It is a sobering reminder of the damage COVID-19 can inflict. We know many of you working in health & social care across Grampian will have personal connections to India. You are very much in our thoughts at this difficult time.

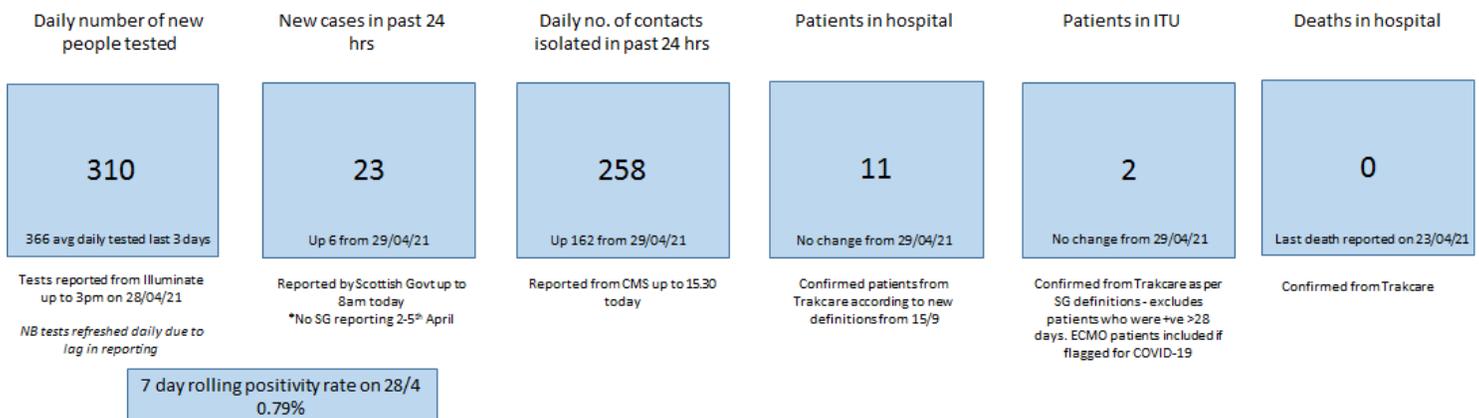
International Day of the Midwife/International Nurses Day – celebrations with a difference

The support of our local communities over the past year has been vital. We knew people in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Moray valued their health service but to see the depth of their support was truly humbling. Food, gifts, toys, handsewn scrubs – the list goes on. Throughout this, those of us working in health & social care have been able to keep doing the jobs we love. We will all have family, friends, neighbours affected by furlough, job losses, and the economic challenges the past year has brought. With this in mind, we want to mark International Day of the Midwife (5 May) and International Nurses Day (12 May) by giving back to our communities. Between 5-12 May we are asking all teams to make donations to their local foodbank. They are providing much needed support to those who need it most right now and we can think of no better way to mark these important events.

We're encouraging teams to arrange this in the way that best suits them and donate to their local facility. Please check with them what items they most need (as well as non-perishable food, many foodbanks provide toiletries and other key items). If you aren't sure where your nearest foodbank is, you can use the [Trussell Trust website](#) (for Aberdeen City/Aberdeenshire) or contact [Moray Food Plus](#). If you aren't in your usual workplace just now, or otherwise can't arrange a collection, many supermarkets take donations too so check your local branch. In addition, we hope to arrange collection points on the ARI site – details to be confirmed.

Whatever you are able to give will make a real difference – thank you.

Grampian data The local figures for today 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.



If you are interested in seeing what is happening in your area, this information is published daily by Public Health Scotland. All you need to do is click [here](#) and select the appropriate local authority area.

Staff testing programme Yesterday we shared information about the extended community testing underway in Moray and included links to the NHS Inform testing page. Please remember that, as members of health & social staff, you should continue to access the staff testing programme, based in Aberdeen, Elgin, and Huntly. Tests can be arranged by clicking [here](#).

SSTS/HealthRoster Codes Managers are reminded of the importance of updating SSTS/HealthRoster on a real time basis where possible, and also that SSTS/HealthRoster is amended if the reason the staff member is absent from work changes – e.g. if a staff member has tested positive for Covid-19 this is recorded on SSTS/HealthRoster as Special Leave – Covid-19 positive. However, if a GP Fit Note confirms they have Long Covid the SSTS/HealthRoster Covid-19 positive code should end and a new absence should be entered using Special Leave – Long Covid and the dates should reflect the dates on the GP Fit Note.

If a manager is not able to allocate work for the staff member to do at home and OHS have confirmed that they cannot return to the workplace for health reasons, then the staff member is **absent** from work and this **should** be recorded on SSTS/HealthRoster under the Special Leave – Coronavirus – Underlying Health Condition code. The manager should continue to source appropriate work which can be done at home and escalate through their line management structure, linking with other services.

If a staff member is working at home then the manager **should not** record this on SSTS as the staff member is not absent from work.

The full SSTS / HealthRoster codes for staff absences relating to Covid-19 are in [Appendix 3](#) of the Manager's Q&A. These apply only if the staff member is not working at home during this time.

Safe socialising If you're planning a garden gathering this weekend, we've got some top tips to keep you and your guests safe:

- Remember it is spring in Scotland – be prepared for four seasons in one day in your garden so wear plenty clothes and even take blankets!
- Check the weather forecast and if it doesn't look good then consider re-arranging. Better to put off for a few days than risk the temptation of heading inside.
- If you have garden guests and you're lucky enough to have more than one toilet, designate one for your visitors only. However many loos you have, make sure to provide a separate towel for guests and have wipes available for everyone to clean down surfaces afterwards – they might as well earn your garden hospitality! Toilet trips should be one at a time.
- Unlike us COVID doesn't relax with a glass of wine in the garden – if you are having a drink don't let your guard drop and risk all the progress we have made.
- Think quality, not quantity, with the size of your group. Keep it small and perfectly formed!
- Remember not to share food – consider a takeaway instead and keep to your own dishes – if you can't resist some nibbles give your garden guests their own bowl and don't share.
- Remember hand gel – leave it out for guests to use.

Orange Award Huge congratulations to Andrea Dryburgh, nurse manager in Radiology and recent winner of an Orange Award. The award recognises any teams or individuals working in health & social care and going above and beyond to provide great service. If you want to nominate a colleague or team for an award, just click [here](#) to complete the online form or email their details to gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot

PPE 3 week look ahead:

PPE Summary - Predicted Equipment Remaining at the end of each week

	FFP3 Mask	type IIR mask	Covid Gowns	Theatre Gowns	Visors + Goggles	Aprons	Gloves
April 19, 2021	167,495	57,800	8,000	8,044	54,200	1,055,373	1,660,877
April 26, 2021	168,001	70,887	7,960	8,597	54,667	1,055,373	1,660,877
May 3, 2021	168,507	83,973	7,919	9,149	55,133	1,055,373	1,660,877
May 10, 2021	169,013	97,060	7,879	9,702	55,600	1,055,373	1,660,877

■ Stock < 0 ■ Stock <= 2 Days ■ Stock <= 5 Days ■ Stock > 5 Days

Tunes for the weekend As we're heading into the weekend, we're offering you a few tunes to choose from – thanks again to everyone who made suggestions. Rest assured, we're keeping a note of them all!

The Support Services team in Inverurie are encouraging you to have a bop to [this one](#) from Laura Branigan.

June Tytler (Bowel screening and pre-assessment team leader) is risking yet more teasing from her colleagues for [her choice](#) of Take That, but she's nae carin'!

Suzie Hutchison (CAMHS team secretary) is taking us in a completely different direction with [this one](#) by The Hu, a Mongolian folk/rock band.

We hope you have a restful weekend and are able to enjoy the public holiday on Monday. To our colleagues working through, take care and stay safe.

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.