

Here is the brief for Friday 25 March 2022.

**Reflection on the past week** It has been probably the busiest week many of us have experienced for some time. The health & social care system is under sustained pressure in all areas, from arriving at the Emergency Department 'front door', to care in hospitals, to discharge home and care in the community. This is due to a combination of rising COVID-19 cases, along with other illnesses and the general health & care needs of people in Grampian. Geraldine Fraser (Partnership Manager, Central, Aberdeenshire HSCP) gives some insight into the challenges faced [in this short video](#). We expect this fragile situation to continue for some weeks to come and a reduction in transmission cannot come soon enough. There are some tentative signs the rise of COVID-19 in the community is slowing, however at this stage the situation remains uncertain, particularly with today's ONS infection survey estimating 1 in 11 people in Scotland had COVID-19 in the past week.

It is impossible to thank everyone individually via this brief, but it is vital for the thousands of you working right across health & social care to know your efforts are seen and we are hugely grateful for them.

**COVID-19 antiviral treatment** It is possible to prescribe antiviral treatments for COVID-19 for certain individuals with the virus. However, the majority of the population are **not** eligible for these treatments. We are seeing a high level of enquiries about antivirals so wanted to share who would be eligible. This information [is also available on NHS Inform](#), should you require more detail. Individuals with COVID-19 should only contact the local team regarding antiviral treatment if they have been told (by letter/text) to do so and/or are in an eligible category, as follows:

- In a high-risk group and with a clinical condition which has been prioritised for treatment. The clinical conditions are as follows:

People with Down's syndrome

People with active cancer or who have received chemotherapy / radiotherapy recently.

People with haematological (blood) diseases and stem cell transplant recipients

People with a renal (kidney) disease

People with liver disease

People with immune-mediated inflammatory disorders (IMID)

People with immune deficiencies

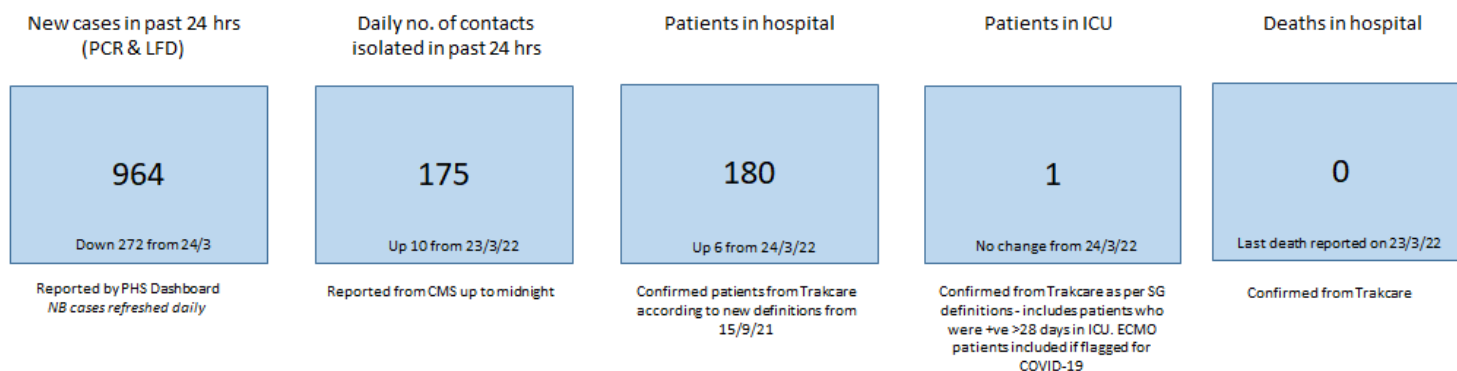
People with HIV/AIDS

Solid organ transplant recipients

Rare neurological conditions (e.g. MS / MND / MG / HD)

- [They are taking part in the PANORAMIC research study](#)

**Grampian data** The local report is shown below. [The Public Health Scotland daily dashboard can be viewed here](#)



**eESS project newsletter** Apologies for any issues accessing the newsletter we shared yesterday. It has been attached to today's brief instead.

**That Was The Week That Was** No, not the satirical show from the 1960s (ask your parents...) but rather a round up of some of the key items we've shared this week. [All briefs are available online](#), but it can be hard to search if you're not sure when an item was published. This is a quick (but not exhaustive) guide to this week's briefs; if you find this item useful, please let us know and we'll make it a regular feature.

- Monday 21 – Buyback of annual leave (deadline approaching), pension consultation, removal of fax machines across the system.
- Tuesday 22 – Survey on the impact of COVID-19 on people with disabilities, cyber security, relocation of ARI collection point for staff LFD testing
- Wednesday 23 – Dates for PPE donning & doffing refreshers, message from the Cabinet Secretary on the second National Day of Reflection.
- Thursday 24 – Latest 'Caroline in conversation with...' video, update on First Aid training for staff.

**Tune of the day** The clocks go forward this weekend (losing an hour, sorry!) so our tune for today is [Time Passes by Paul Weller](#).

This Sunday is also Mother's Day. If you are celebrating (or being celebrated!) we wish you a lovely day. I know this can be an odd day for people, for all sorts of reasons. If that's you, I simply wish you a peaceful Sunday. Whatever you're doing this weekend, take care and be safe. The brief will return on Monday.

If you want to request a song for tune of the day, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)