

Here is the brief for Wednesday 3 March 2021.

Update – Eye protection in the amber (medium risk) pathway The recommendation that all healthcare workers providing direct care in the amber pathway should wear eye protection, at all times, has been **discontinued**. All healthcare workers in all COVID-19 pathways, should apply the recommendations within the Scottish Covid-19 IPC addendum, section 5.6 [National Infection Prevention and Control Manual: Scottish COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Addendum for Acute Settings](#)

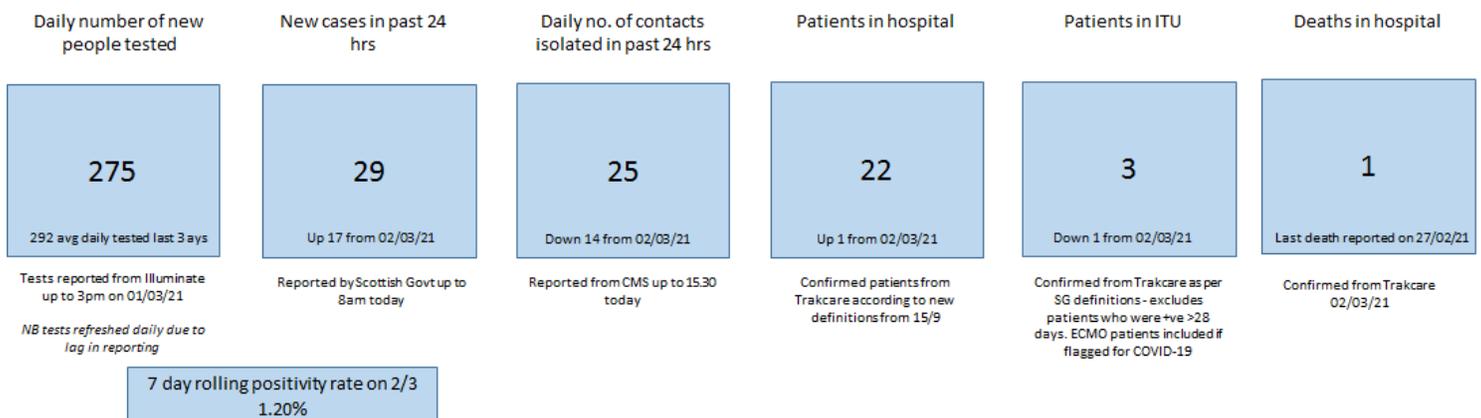
If patients in the amber or green pathways are identified as having new / recent onset of symptoms suggestive of COVID-19, or a positive test is reported, then red (high risk) pathway principles become immediately applicable. See [The NHS Grampian Staff Protocol for Clinical Risk Assessment, Screening and Management of Patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 \(SARS-COV2\) in Hospital Settings](#) for further information (intranet link, networked devices only)

COVID-19 vaccination programme- proof of vaccination The topic of vaccine passports has been much discussed in recent weeks. It's important to be aware that, at present, no such scheme exists. We await further guidance from the Scottish Government on the introduction of any such scheme.

Variant of Concern detected in Grampian The Incident Management Team set up in light of the detection of 3 cases of COVID-19 Variant of Concern in Grampian met again today. Tracing of contacts, and contacts of contacts locally, is now complete. This is the product of a significant amount of hard work by our local Health Protection team and their efforts must be recognised. The National Contact Tracing Centre is continuing its work to trace all passengers onboard BA Flight 1312 from Heathrow to Aberdeen on 29 January. Officials remain confident there has been no community spread of this variant.

Use of face masks/face coverings in healthcare settings – information for the public A patient information leaflet has been developed to explain to patients, carers, and visitors the current policy on wearing face masks or face coverings in healthcare settings. It is available to read [here](#) and distribution of hard copies is underway.

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.



Webinar opportunity - Infection Prevention and Control during Covid-19 Two free webinars will be held on 9 March (1.30-3pm) and 17 March (10-11.30am), giving NHS Scotland staff the opportunity to put any concerns and questions on infection prevention and control to a panel of clinical experts and frontline staff. They will provide the latest information on infection prevention and control measures and the scientific base that underpins them. The panel will share intelligence on the routes of transmission, including the new variants of the virus, and will highlight how different interventions prevent transmission. To find out more, including how to book, please see the information attached to the email used to send out this brief.

World Obesity Day Tomorrow (4 March) is World Obesity Day 2021. In advance of the event, Alice Murray (Obesity Nurse Specialist) and Georgia Darling (Bariatric Dietitian) invited NHS Grampian colleagues, across different specialities, to demonstrate this year's theme "Every Body needs Everybody" and you can watch the video they produced [here](#). World Obesity Day aims to bring together individuals and organisations from around the world to raise awareness & address the root causes of obesity, encourage advocacy, and improve health policies.

Question of the day Yesterday we asked you what makes you feel safe at work. Thank you to everyone who has taken part so far; we are leaving this question open for a further 24 hours and would encourage everyone to have their say. This question is looking at ALL workplaces we find ourselves in at present. To participate, click [here](#) or copy this link into your browser:
<https://www.menti.com/efw84kfm8v>

Thought for the day Last Saturday, the Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT) staged an outdoor art show at Foresterhill, projecting the words gathered for their Sayings in the Suttie exhibition onto the side of the multi-storey car park. We know this was a hugely emotional occasion for all who took part, as evidenced in the feedback from staff:

"This has made my night, really tough shift last night, this is just what we needed, you're going to make a lot of people's night tonight".

"I'm just away to start my shift at intensive care and this is exactly what I needed!"

"It almost had me in tears, this has made my night".

This particular saying really struck a chord with us, so we're sharing it here – a huge thank you to the GHAT team for all their work on this project – you can see more about the exhibition [here](#).



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.