

COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus



Here is the brief for Friday 24 July 2020. Please ensure that you share this brief with colleagues and staff who do not have access to email, especially if they are self-isolating, otherwise working from home or do not have ready access to a PC. Briefs are shared on our dedicated website covid19.nhsgrampian.org which is updated continuously.

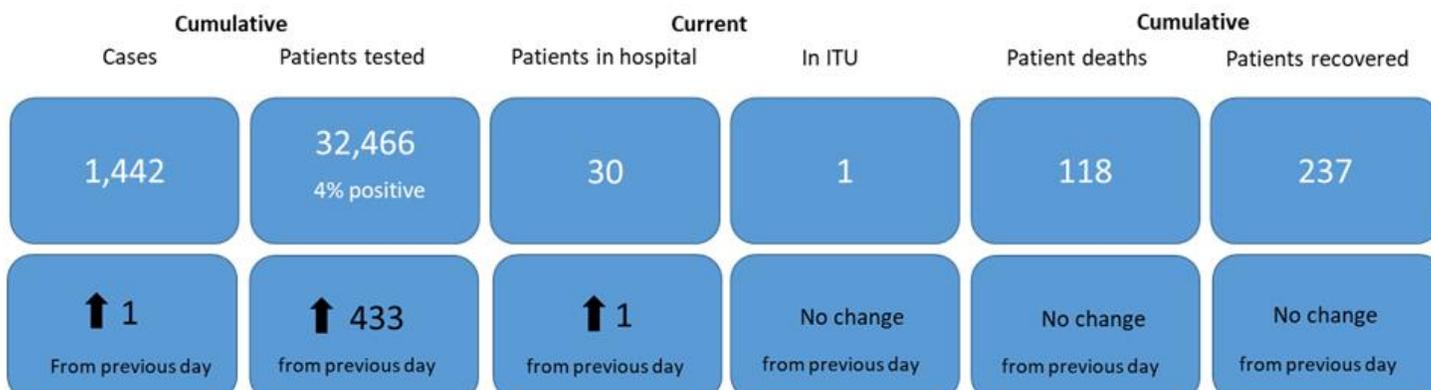
Message from Prof Amanda Croft: “At the end of another very busy week, I want to take a moment to write a short message to say thank you to everyone for all they are doing and have done. I think it is important that people know that, as a leadership team, we understand and see the evidence of the hard work you are all doing day in, day out. Our patients see those benefits too and we should never lose sight of that.

“The last few months have been intense for us all. We’re all feeling the impact and I include myself in that. That is why it is so important that in our own teams, as well as organisationally, we continue to do everything we can to support each other. That could cover all manner of things - from making sure you and your colleagues take the time out they need through annual leave, regular breaks or other downtime; to making sure that we treat each other with compassion and understanding; or that colleagues, particularly those working from home, have the support networks they need. These are still unprecedented and challenging times, and collectively we each need to make a real effort, to make sure we do all we can to look after those around us.

“As an organisation we also know there is a lot to do to get things ready for the remobilisation of services and to make sure that we are fit and ready to live with COVID and future surges in demand across the system. A lot of very detailed work is well underway and we will do everything we can to get you the right support and resource to allow you and your team to move forwards with certainty. That is challenging and it is going to take a little time, but you can expect to start hearing more from me and other members of the system leadership team over the next week about those plans.

“For the moment, I just want to reiterate my incredible gratitude for all of your hard work. We really do appreciate it.”

Grampian update A snapshot of hospital related COVID-19 activity in Grampian for Friday 24 July is shown below. To see what is happening in other Board areas, you can visit the [Scottish Government website](#).



Re-introduction of person centred visiting – update As previously planned, from Monday (27 July) wards in ARI and Dr Gray’s hospital will offer one designated visitor per patient regardless of the length of stay. Surgical wards will continue to offer visiting for patients who have been in hospital for 14 days. In critical care areas, individual plans are place dependent on clinical need. More information is available [here](#).

Staff testing Our staff testing programme remains operational. Any member of health and social care staff with COVID-19 symptoms – or isolating due to symptoms of a household member – should book a test [here](#). Testing is undertaken in Aberdeen, Elgin and Huntly.

Use of face coverings in healthcare premises - update Additional guidance has been provided by the Scottish Government. We have included this guidance at the beginning of [this FAQ](#) for ease of reference; we would encourage you to read this document in full and if you have further questions please speak to your line manager.

Annual Leave The [staff](#) and [managers](#) annual leave sections of the Q&A have been updated following the receipt of [DL \(2020\) 20](#) and [DL \(2020\) 22](#). Shielding staff are encouraged to plan when they will take their leave entitlement and contact their managers as soon as possible to see if this can be accommodated and get it authorised. A [national shielding routemap](#) has been created that will help all to clearly understand what it is considered safe to do as restrictions are lifted.

As highlighted by the First Minister this week, people looking to book a trip overseas “cannot do it on the basis of certainty that because the country you might be travelling to is exempt from quarantine when you want to go there, that it will still be exempt when you come back”. There is also the potential for local lockdowns or quarantines to be imposed where you are considering travelling to. As such you should consider what type of leave is available to take in the event that you are unable to return to the workplace at the expected time as well as the impact that not returning to work at the expected time has on your workplace and colleagues.

Scottish Health Awards Nominations are open for the Scottish Health Awards; celebrating the best in health and social care across the country. There are 16 categories, covering everything from innovation to global citizenship, and of course including Doctor, Nurse, Midwife, Allied Health Professional, and Top Team of the year. The past few months have demonstrated the strength and depth of our teams in Grampian and you deserve national recognition. Details on the event and how to nominate are available [here](#).

PPE three week look ahead Again this week no supply problems with PPE are expected.

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

	FFP3 Mask	type IIR mask	Covid Gowns	Theatre Gowns	Visors + Goggles	Aprons	Gloves
20 July 2020	241,257	673,505	28,857	4,657	53,340	285,854	1,837,687
27 July 2020	244,886	681,073	30,052	4,417	52,405	285,854	1,837,687
3 August 2020	248,515	688,641	31,247	4,176	51,469	285,854	1,837,687
10 August 2020	252,144	696,210	32,442	3,935	50,533	285,854	1,837,687

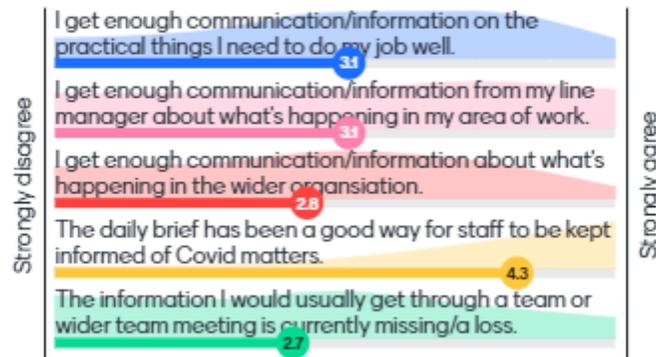
Making the brief accessible An audio digest of recent daily brief items is available [here](#). A BSL version will be available early next week.

Thought for the day For many of us, it’s the end of another working week. We hope there have been more positives than negatives this week and that you get some time to wind down over the weekend. If you are working over the weekend, we hope you have a safe and productive shift. Whatever you are doing, thank you for all your efforts.

Question of the day – new topic and yesterday’s results Yesterday we asked about communication. As of 15.50 today, 696 people have answered, and the results are as follows:

Following yesterday’s results we would like to explore areas of communication that can be improved.

Mentimeter



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We're obviously pleased to see you value this brief and find it useful. We hope answering these questions prompted you to think about communication and how you can play your part in sharing information. To round off our focus on communication this week, we are asking you which methods you use in your team. To take part please click [here](#) or copy this link into your browser:

<https://www.menti.com/unciouo11z>

Comments? Suggestions? If you have feedback about this brief or questions about the content please do not hesitate to get in touch via gram-uhb.staffquestions@nhs.net