

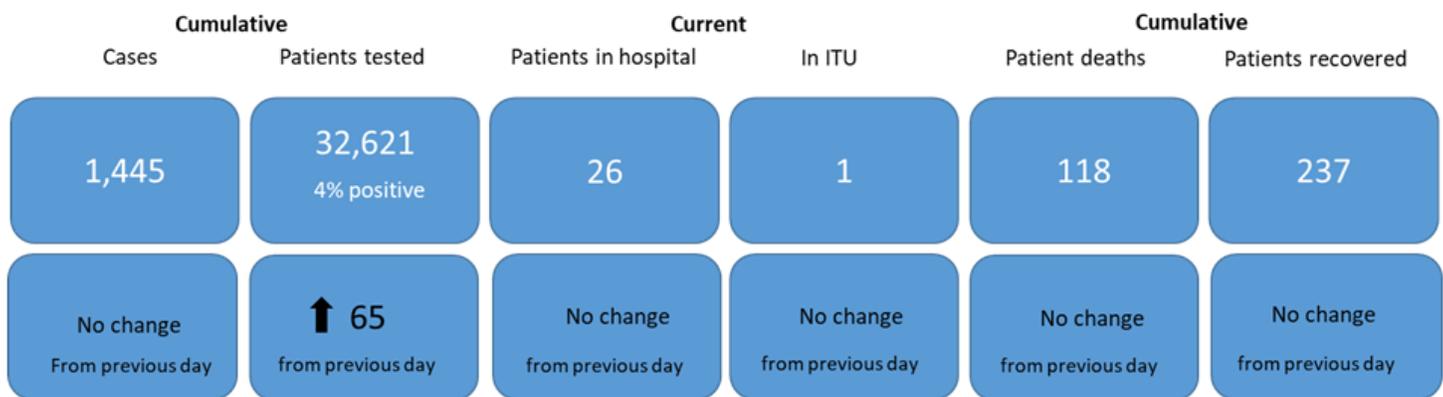
# COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus



Here is the brief for Monday 27 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](https://covid19.nhsgrampian.org) which is updated continuously.

**Grampian update** A snapshot of hospital related COVID-19 activity in Grampian for Monday 27 July is shown below. To see what is happening in other Board areas, you can visit the [Scottish Government website](#).



**Travel quarantine** The rapid change in the quarantine for people arriving – or returning – from Spain over the weekend highlights how fluid the travel situation is. If you are considering a holiday abroad it is vital you check what the local situation is and what quarantine arrangements might be in place. Given that quarantine arrangements could change during your break you should also ensure you have a contingency plan in place in the event that you have to isolate on your return. Travel advice is available [here](#).

If you are now in a position that you are going to have to quarantine on your return to the UK and you booked your holiday **on or after 9th June**, you are reminded that, in line with Scottish Government guidelines, special leave and home working will **not** be granted to individuals to cover the quarantine period. You should refer to the [staff Q&A](#) for more information and have a discussion with your manager as soon as possible.

**Shielding staff** A reminder that staff who have been shielding are not immediately expected to return to the workplace when the arrangement is paused on 31 July. Guidance is being developed by the Scottish Government to assist us to bring shielding staff back into the workplace safely. Until this guidance has been received and a local plan put in place, shielding staff should continue to stay at home. Where work from home is possible this should continue. As not all shielding staff may be regularly accessing the daily brief, managers are encouraged to make contact with their shielding staff member(s) to ensure that they are aware of this position.

**Making the brief accessible** A BSL digest of recent brief items is available to view [here](#).

**PPE Donning & doffing training – new dates** Training on the correct way to don and doff PPE is being provided via MS Teams – dates below. To book, just email [gram-uhb.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.net](mailto:gram-uhb.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.net)

Date	Time
Thursday 30 July	11-11.45am
Monday 3 August	11-11.45am
Wednesday 5 August	11-11.45am
Wednesday 12 August	11-11.45am
Monday 17 August	11-11.45am

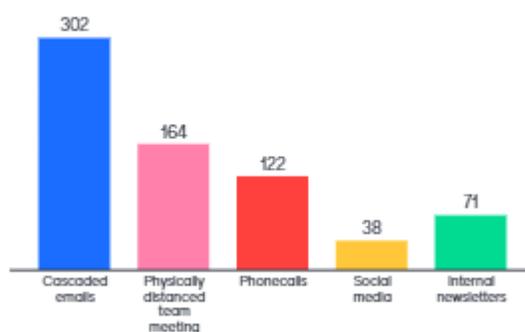
**Donating Convalescent Plasma** Recent scientific evidence has shown that transfusing patients with plasma from people who have recovered from COVID-19 can help shorten the illness and make it less severe if given to very ill patients with severe lung disease. This is because recovered patients' plasma may contain antibodies, which can help patients recover. In the past, this approach has been used to treat other newly emerging infections (such as Spanish flu, SARS and Ebola) and is known as passive immunotherapy. The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (SNBTS) are asking people who have had symptoms to consider donation, allowing them to produce COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma, which might then be used to treat sick patients. If you – or someone you know – has had suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and would be interested in finding out more, you can call the SNBTS nursing team on 0345 90 90 999. There's more information on their website [here](#).

**Thought for the day** The results of our question from Friday suggest cascading emails is the most popular method for sharing information in teams. We've all been there – an email comes in, possibly with a number of attachments, and a quick glance suggests it contains important information. It's easy to hit 'forward' and possibly just add 'FYI'. It's quick, but is it effective? Would a phone call be more productive? If you do have to send an email, could you include clear directions to the people receiving it? We're keen to hear your top tips for effective emails, so please send them in using the address below. To start this off, why not use the subject line to say 'For info' or 'For action'? This allows the person receiving the email to prioritise their messages appropriately.

**Question of the day – new topic and yesterday's results** On Friday we rounded off our focus on communication and asked what methods you use in your team. The results at 15.45 today are as follows (and see our Thought for the day for more on this):

Which methods do you rely on most to communicate with your staff and colleagues about what's happening in the wider organisation? Pick all that apply

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We're starting this week by looking at the upcoming email changes and the move to Office 365 – how ready are you? To answer the question please click [here](#) or copy this link into your browser:

<https://www.menti.com/tt1yyxur8>

**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](mailto:gram-uhb.staffquestions@nhs.net)