

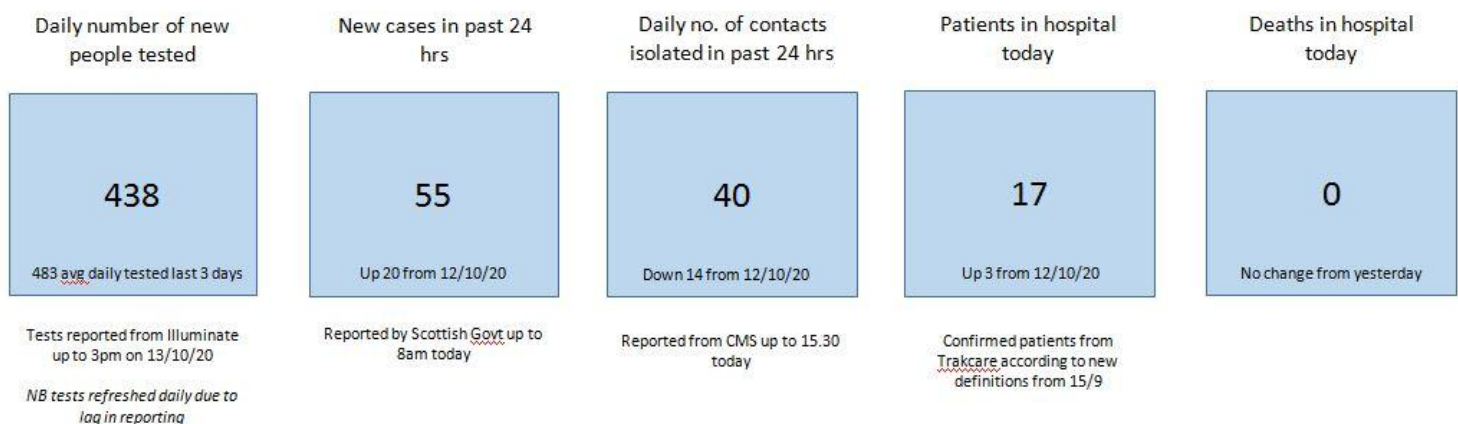
COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus



Here is the brief for Tuesday 13 October 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.

Grampian update The most up-to-date Grampian data about COVID-19 new cases, contacts and care in Grampian hospitals is shown below. National data is provided by Public Health Scotland. You can view that [here](#).



Guidance on the use of face coverings – UPDATE We are implementing refreshed guidance from the Scottish Government with immediate effect. The most significant change is for those staff working in canteen retail, and non-clinical sites where the corridors and other such common areas do not allow for 2 m physical distancing. **Non-clinical sites are encouraged to support the usage of face coverings in areas where 2 m physical distancing is not possible in corridors and common areas.** You can view the updated guidance [here](#).

COVID-19 and contact tracing Across Scotland, daily case numbers now exceed 1000. If the virus was spread evenly, we in Grampian might expect to have daily case numbers in excess of 100. In fact, our worst day so far was last Friday (9/10) when 67 cases were reported to the Case Management System. Everyone in Grampian really needs to pay strict attention to all the guidance around prevention that should by now be well known. If there is one issue that stands out in the recent increase in cases it is the lack of physical distancing. If we are to keep the virus under control in Grampian it is this aspect of prevention that needs to be better practiced. As contact tracing has become so busy it was decided nationally on Friday that close contacts who had provided a mobile phone number would only receive a text message rather than a telephone call. Whilst this has reduced the workload of contact tracers it is to be hoped that this will not reduce the level of compliance with self-isolation advice

Care home visiting The Scottish Government has outlined plans to ease restrictions on care home visiting. Visits indoors (which are not covered by the current national restrictions) could be extended and relatives may be permitted to support personal care. All care home visiting is subject to the homes being COVID-19 symptom free for 28 days, participating in the care home testing programme, and having a risk assessment signed off by the Director of Public Health. You can find out more about the planned changes [here](#).

Are your PPE skills still sharp? PPE is at its most effective when it is correctly donned and doffed. Regularly refreshing your knowledge in this area keeps you, your colleagues, and patients safe. Training sessions are held every Tuesday and Friday at 11am, via MS Teams. You can book your place by emailing gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot

Roll out of eESS (electronic Employee Support System) Last month all managers received Issue 1 of the eESS Newsletter providing an introduction to eESS and information on what was to come. NHS Grampian are required to migrate our employee and hierarchal data prior to the introduction of eESS. Authorising managers will have received an email from the eESS data migration team which will contain a spreadsheet for their work area. Thanks to all the managers who have completed and returned the spreadsheet. For those managers who have not yet returned the spreadsheet there is a strict deadline for completion of the employee and hierarchal data, spreadsheets need to be completed and returned within two weeks of receipt of the email to gram.eess@nhs.scot. Your co-operation in meeting the strict deadline of mid-October is required.

Thought for the day – thank you Rose Rose Donnelly – who’s mum and sister both work for NHS Grampian - sent us a beautiful picture at the height of the pandemic, to thank staff for their amazing efforts. This has been turned into a flag, now proudly flown at ARI. Rose was invited to the hospital to see the flag unveiling by Professor Amanda Croft, our chief executive. You can see a video of this, plus a message from Amanda [here](#). For someone as young as Rose to take the time to thank health & social care staff is truly humbling.



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