

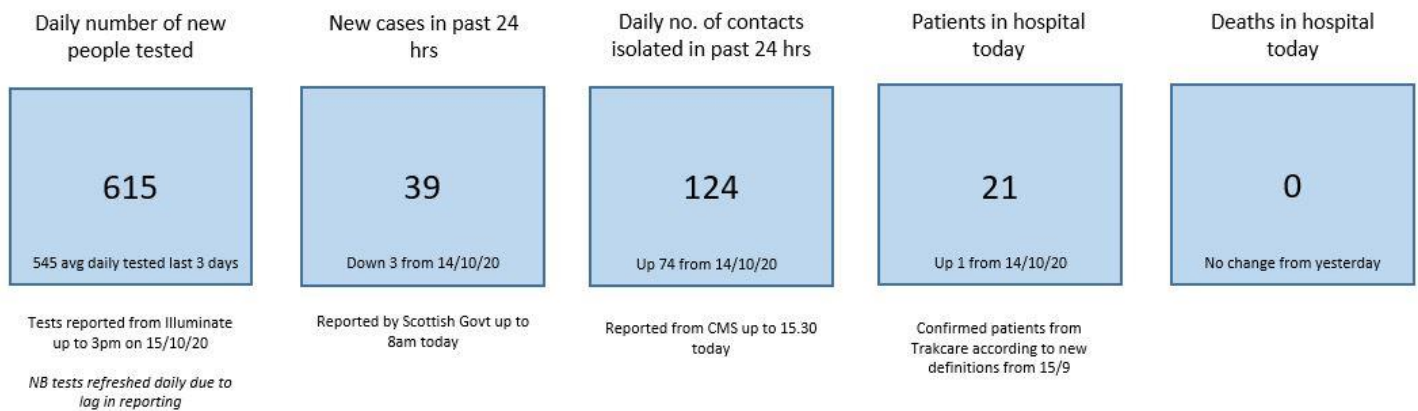
COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus



Here is the brief for Thursday 15 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](#).



'Flu update We have been apologising to members of the public who received a 'flu vaccination appointment letter after their allotted appointment date and will ensure that everyone who is eligible will be offered the opportunity to be vaccinated. The high volume of emails to our dedicated 'flu vaccine email account mean that we are prioritising messages from people who have already received letters and need to rearrange appointments. However, we will respond to everyone who has contacted us. This year's 'flu vaccination programme is being delivered in phases, which means people aged 65 and over will be among the first to receive appointment letters, followed by those aged 18-64 who have health conditions that make them more vulnerable should they catch flu and then other at risk groups. Anyone who has not received their appointment letter yet and fall into one of the eligible groups, should await receipt of the letter rather than contacting us at this stage.

Ward closure We are investigating a small number of detected cases of COVID-19 associated with Ward 212 at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. The ward has been closed to new admissions and visitors are not permitted at present, although virtual visiting is available. Care is being delivered as normal. Enhanced cleaning regimes are in place.

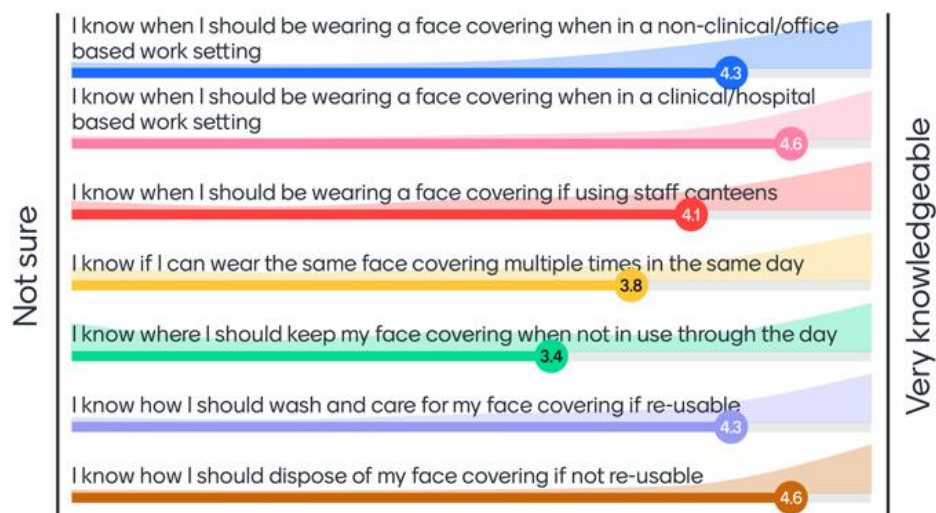
Office 365 - Issues emailing between NHSG and Aberdeenshire HSCP A number of staff have reported difficulties sending and receiving emails between NHSG and Aberdeenshire HSCP staff. The root of the issue has been identified and Aberdeenshire are working to resolve the issue. The remedial work is expected to be complete by 30th October 2020.

Protect Scotland App If you haven't already done so, consider downloading the app. It is an extra tool complementing existing person-to-person contact tracing as part of NHS Scotland's Test and Protect system. Individual's privacy is protected as the app uses Bluetooth technology to anonymously alert users if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, and advises them to self-isolate. Users of the app who test positive will still get a call from a contact tracer to confirm their details and who they have been in close contact with. The app does not store details on an individual or their location but uses encrypted, anonymised codes exchanged between smartphones to determine all close contacts. Close contacts are defined as people who have been within two metres of someone who has tested positive for 15 minutes or more.

Question of the day Yesterday we asked about staff knowledge around face mask rules and the results are in...

Today we would like to know how knowledgeable staff are on the current face covering advice

Mentimeter



346

The survey showed that staff are mostly very knowledgeable about face coverings but that there may be some gaps in people's knowledge – most notably around where to store your mask when it isn't in use. In response to the survey infection prevention control have offered three pieces of clarification around mask rules:

1. Keep your own re-usable face covering in a clean disposable bag when it is not being worn. If you are wearing a mask supplied by NHSG these should be disposed of when removed.
2. You can wear your own re-usable face covering multiple times throughout the day, but would advise that if it is visibly contaminated it is not re-used until it has been washed.
3. It is recommended that you wear a face covering whenever you are in transit and can be removed whilst you are sitting at the table.

Thought for the day Think before inviting a cast of thousands to your Teams meeting. Teams offers the opportunity to be inclusive and democratic in discussion and decision making but can lead to bad habits. Is one representative from a team, who can voice feedback on behalf of their colleagues sufficient? We could all do with fewer meetings so please plan wisely.

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