

# COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus

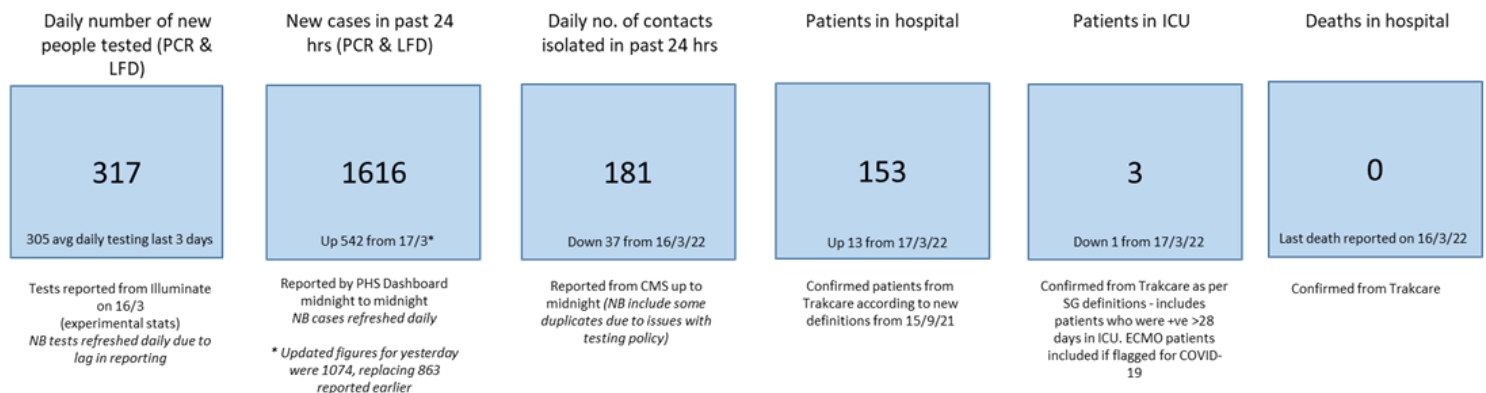


Here is the brief for Friday 18 March 2022.

**COVID-19 Update** This has been one of the most challenging weeks for health and social care - and what is experienced on the ground is borne out in the data. There has been unrelenting demand for medical unscheduled care and whilst covid comprises about 10% in bed occupancy, its effects are disproportionate, leading to significant disruption through ward closures, care home outbreaks and the availability of health and social care staff. Our current covid rates of 1,468 per 100k, are three times higher than in the thick of winter just as Omicron was becoming dominant in mid-December.

Our weekly [situation update video](#) highlights that cases are rising across all age groups but especially in those 50+ years and in children up to 18 years. Admissions to hospitals are also increasing in all age groups with approximately 45% being admitted specifically for covid. This is a tough time for us. But again, the collective efforts of our operational staff on a day to day, hour by hour basis is making what seems like the unmanageable, manageable.

**Grampian data** The local report is shown below. [The Public Health Scotland daily dashboard can be viewed here.](#)



**Flu cases** Public Health Scotland has issued an alert following an increase in flu cases across the country. PHS said the level had risen to 2.2 cases per 100,000, suggesting “the onset of the influenza season in Scotland, which is relatively late compared to previous years”.

The alert recommended: “It is important that the NHS remains vigilant to the potential for any further increases in influenza and other non-COVID respiratory pathogens. This is especially important where people develop influenza symptoms, are negative for COVID-19, and clinicians consider them at risk of the development of complications of their infection (e.g. by inclusion in a clinical risk group).

“Clinicians in the community are advised that consideration should be given to testing for other respiratory infections as soon as symptoms start in those patients in clinical risk groups, or in the event of clinical deterioration in any patient. Patients presenting to hospital with flu-like symptoms should be assessed using local investigation pathways.”

**Management Development Digital Programme** The 2-days Middle Managers Course was redesigned for delivery in accordance with the new ways of working in the response to COVID- 19. An innovative digital version was created using a blended approach of eLearning, tutor-led and Q&A live sessions. The programme aims to ensure that managers are supported in the workplace and have the opportunity to

continue developing their skills in managing effective teams. The course is delivered over 9 weeks using a Teams Group with channels assigned to each topic where sessions are scheduled, resources shared and updates posted.

For further information and to book a place please check the course page in Turas Learn on this link [Management Development Digital Programme](#)

Any queries please send to [gram.learningdevelopment@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.learningdevelopment@nhs.scot)

**Tune of the day** To my shame I forgot yesterday was St Patrick's Day – I can only beg your forgiveness. So to make up for that, today we'll have a double-header from the Emerald Isle. Arguably the best musical acts to emerge from those nearby shore since Phil Lynott's Thin Lizzy, here's B\*Witched with the classic [C'est la vie](#) and The Corrs' [Breathless](#) N.B. Please warm-up before attempting the jig included in the B\*Witched video, none of us are getting any younger. Have a great weekend folks.

If you want to request a song for tune of the day, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)