

COVID-19 Brief

coronavirus

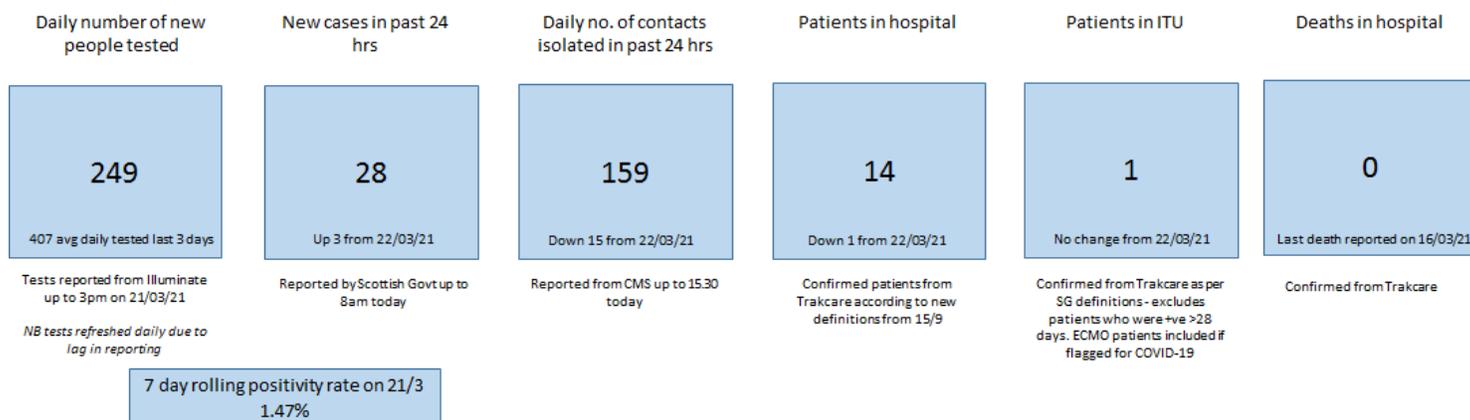
Here is the brief for Tuesday 23 March 2021.

National Day of Reflection We hope you have been able to mark this day in a way that has felt meaningful to you. If you have not already had a chance to view it, the healthcare chaplaincy team recorded a short reflection for the day and it is available [here](#). In addition, NHS Scotland Chief Executive Caroline Lamb has recorded a message for everyone working in health & social care, which you can watch [here](#).



COVID-19 vaccination programme- proof of vaccination A reminder that, at present, there is currently no proof of vaccination/vaccination passport scheme in Scotland. We await further guidance from the Scottish Government on the introduction of any such scheme.

Grampian data The local figures for today and the 7 day rolling positivity rate are shown below. As a reminder, this rate is arrived at by dividing the number of positive tests in the past 7 days by the number of tests carried out in the past 7 days. Repeat tests are included in both categories, whereas the figures we show here only record new tests. If you want to see more detailed information, including cases at neighbourhood level, click [here](#) for the Public Health Scotland daily dashboard.



Type 11 masks – recall Although they have been removed from the NDC catalogue, we are aware that some stocks of Type 11 masks (**non-fluid repellent**) may still be in circulation. These include Molnlycke and Medline brand names. These masks are not appropriate PPE and should not be used. The following product codes have been purchased in NHSG in the past – 143665, 217311, and 237913. If you have any of these Type 11 masks in use or storage, please do not use; instead quarantine them and contact gram.covid19supplies@nhs.scot to arrange a return. Please be reminded that all Personal protective equipment (PPE) should comply with the [National Infection Prevention and Control Manual](#). Staff should be provided with Type IIR fluid repellent masks in accordance with guidance and this is often indicated with an "R" in the product code.

Phased return to work following sickness absence - implementation of STAC (TC02) 2020 To date, the NHS Grampian Workplace Adjustment Policy has outlined that an employee who returns to work on a phased return / workplace adjustment programme following sickness absence will receive their full contractual pay for the duration of their time on that programme. The Scottish Terms and Conditions Committee have now issued national guidance which will supersede this element of our local policy with effect from 1 April 2021. STAC (TC02) 2020 confirms the following general provisions for phased returns for all NHS staff:

- Any employee who returns to work on a phased return as recommended by Occupational Health will be entitled to be paid for a period of up to 4 weeks at their normal contractual pay.
- If the phased return needs to extend beyond this period, the employee will be expected to contribute any untaken accrued annual leave. However, if an employee does not wish to use their annual leave they can opt to be paid according to the actual hours worked during the phased return period.*
- Phased returns should not normally last for periods of longer than 8 weeks.
- The type of work and the work pattern that the employee is asked to undertake during a phased return needs to take into account any advice received from Occupational Health.

*Please note if the phased return lasts over 4 weeks and the employee is to be paid according to the actual hours worked during the phased return period this would equate to a temporary reduction in hours for an agreed period. A change form must be submitted to payroll so the employee's pay for the remainder of the phased return can be amended accordingly. The change form should specify a start and end date.

PPE donning and doffing training This training is available every Tuesday at 11am, via Teams. You can book your space by emailing gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot

Thought for the day Marie Curie led the drive for today to be marked as a National Day of Reflection, so it seems appropriate to share a photo of the Marie Curie Field of Hope at Foresterhill. This year, as it has every year regardless of what is happening in the world around us, it has burst into life, a symbol of hope and renewal.



Questions to ask? Information to share? If you have particular questions – or are aware of questions coming from friends and family – please share them with us. We may not be able to answer every question and it may take us time to get a proper answer, but we will endeavour to respond and share the answers. You can get in touch with us via gram.communications@nhs.scot. Please also use that email address if you have items for consideration for future briefs.