

Here is the brief for Friday 29 October 2021.

**ARI staff vaccination clinic** Next week (w/c 1 Nov) the ARI staff vaccination clinic (based in Eye Outpatients, Level 3, Yellow Zone) will operate Monday – Friday as usual. **However, this will be the last full week for the clinic.** The final clinics in this location will take place on Wednesday 10 and Friday 12 November. After this, it will not be possible to get your ‘flu and/or COVID booster in this location.

If you have yet to book your appointment, [please do so using the online portal](#). Booking is requested whenever possible, to ensure a timely service. At the time of writing, more than 500 appointments are available on the above dates. The clinic is only able to offer a very limited drop-in facility, due to space constraints. If the clinic is busy, staff dropping in for vaccination may be asked to leave and return later.

**COVID-19 and international travel** There are two important updates on international travel:

1. The European Commissions has confirmed Scotland and the rest of the UK have been formally adopted into the European Union’s Digital Covid Certificate (EU DCC) scheme. All Covid status certificates will be recognised across Europe on Monday 1 November as the UK joins the EU scheme which provides the means for QR codes to be scanned and verified as being officially issued.

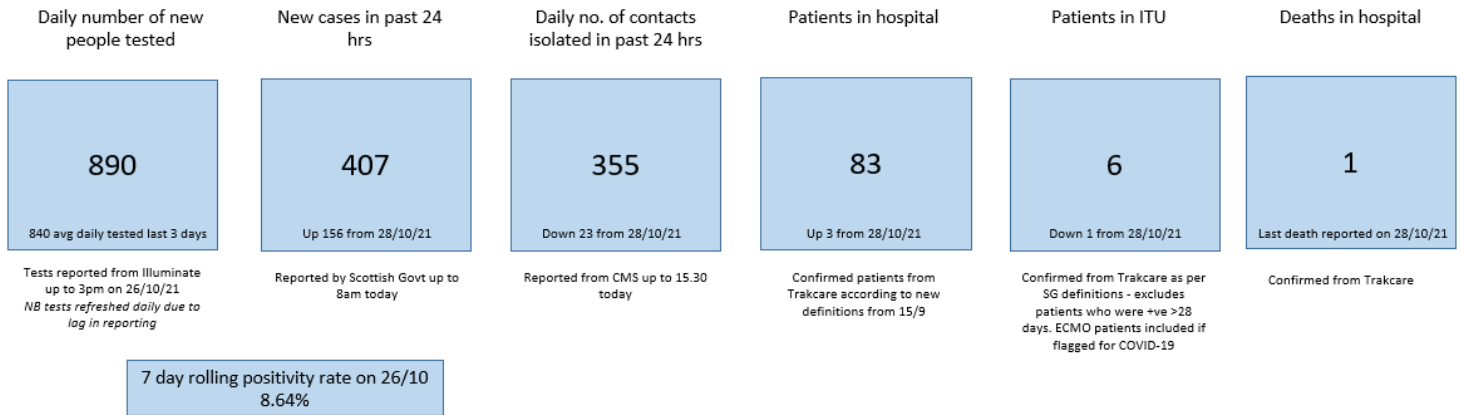
The change will open up ease of access for travellers to more than 40 countries covered by the certification scheme. It covers travel to Europe and those countries which, like the UK, are affiliated with the EU DCC. It will also enable better access to facilities like bars and other venues where this is required in those countries which have chosen to use the EU DCC domestically.

Users of the NHS Covid Status app will have their vaccination status automatically updated when they login. Scots travelling to the EU and countries covered by the scheme who have downloaded a PDF version with QR codes on their mobile device, or anyone who has a printed letter with their COVID status dated before 7 October will need to either download the app or request a new letter.

2. The final seven countries have been removed from the international travel red list, meaning travellers to the UK from those destinations will no longer have to stay in hotel quarantine for 10 days on arrival. The decision was made on a four-nation basis and will take effect at 4am on 1 November. It affects arrivals from Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Panama, Peru and Venezuela. Despite no countries remaining on the red list from next Monday, the policy is continuing and some managed quarantine capacity will stay in place in Scotland in order to react to any change in risk assessment that would see a country added to the red list.

[Information on travel – and what you need to know before you go – is on the Scottish Government website](#). You should also consult the [HR Q&A section of the NHS Grampian website](#), in particular the sections on annual leave.

**Grampian data** The local update for today is shown below.



[The Public Health Scotland daily dashboard is available to view via this link.](#)

**Switchboard staffing request** The NHS Grampian Switchboard provides a centralised call handling service on a 24x7x365 basis to NHS Grampian staff and members of the public. As well as call handling the switchboard also deals with the following critical services:

- Activation of Clinical Emergencies (2222 calls),
- Activation of violent incident calls (747 calls)
- Activation of fire calls (666 calls)
- Lift emergency calls.
- The activation, transfer, and repair/replacement of Bleeps,
- Major Civil Incidents,
- Helicopter Landings,
- Fire, intruder and personal attack alarm monitoring
- Rotawatch (OOH contact handling and unscheduled system administration)

We are presently experiencing significant staffing challenges to cover switchboard shifts safely and would like to request:

1. If any staff member would like to notify an interest in being on the bank to be able to help support this critical service (note training will be provided) – contact eHealth management as follows:  
[gram.ehealthadmin@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.ehealthadmin@nhs.scot)
2. That staff avoid dialling 0 and asking for the operator to have calls routed internally. Please use the online telephone directory (via the intranet homepage) or use the interactive voice response (IVR) to ask for the person or department required. This will allow depleted switchboard staff to focus on handling critical calls and incoming calls from the public and partner organisations outwith NHS Grampian.

**Orange Award** Congratulations to Craig Mackay (General Surgery) on being the most recent recipient of an Orange Award. If you would like to nominate an individual – or a team – for an Orange Award, you can either complete the [online nomination form](#) or email [gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot)

**Book blethers & Book Week Scotland** To celebrate Book Week Scotland (15 -21 Nov) NHS Grampian Libraries are hosting 'Book Blethers'

What's a Book Blether?

- A shared break time, where two colleagues meet over MS Teams and chat about the books they like reading

How does it work?

- [Sign up using this form](#) (or by emailing [cornhill.library@nhs.scot](mailto:cornhill.library@nhs.scot)) and let us know a little about the kind of books you like reading.
- We will 'match' you with a colleague
- We will send each of you, the other's email address.
- You and your matched colleague then work out a mutually agreed time to have a virtual Book Break over MS Teams during Book Week Scotland (w/b 15 Nov)
- If you need any technical support, setting MS Teams meetings etc, NHS Grampian Library staff can help

**Clock change** We've mentioned it a couple of times this week, a final reminder that the clocks go back one hour on Sunday.

**Tune for the day** We love a theme in this feature (you might have noticed!), so we've gone for the suitably spooky [There's A Ghost In My House by R Dean Taylor](#). As a reminder, these links take you to YouTube; NHS Grampian does not endorse any of the products or services advertised at the start of videos.

If you are out guising this weekend, we wish you a spooky (but safe) Hallowe'en. If you're working, stay safe and take care. The brief will be back on Monday.



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)