

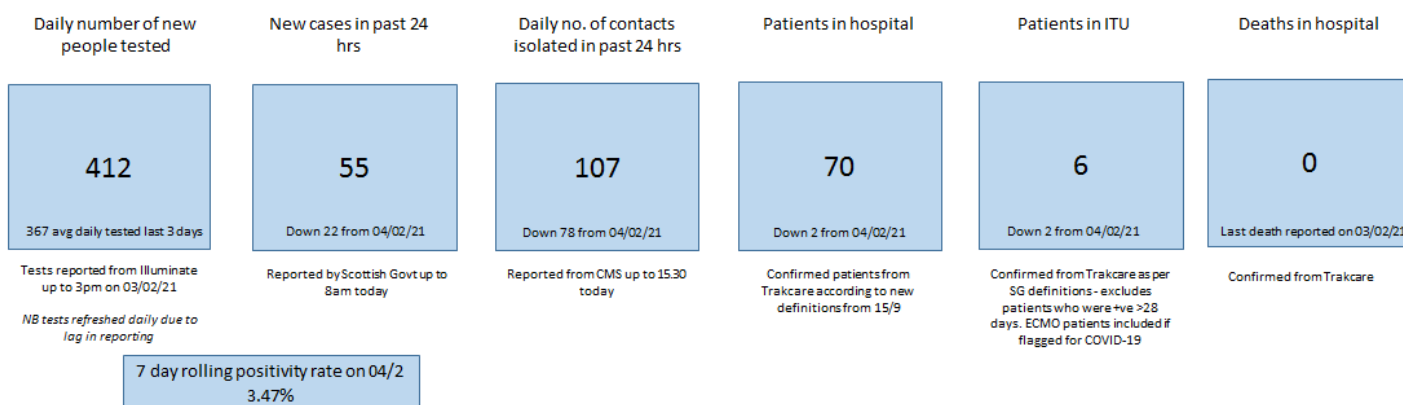
Here is the brief for Friday 5 February 2021.

COVID-19 vaccination programme – recruitment Information was circulated in the brief on Monday 1 February, giving current staff the opportunity to offer hours in support of the vaccination programme. Due to the number of emails received from colleagues in Acute Services we are amending the process for this sector **only**. Effective immediately, all Acute colleagues wishing to offer hours to the vaccination programme should seek support from their manager before passing their details to their Service, who will in turn pass it to their Division for sending to the Deployment Hub. **Please do not send to, or copy in, the ARI Control Room email address.** Please refer back to the brief issued on Monday 1 February and the accompanying attachment for further information.

COVID-19 vaccination programme – information for the public We shared the following information with the general public via our social media accounts; it may also be of use and interest to you as health & social care staff. The patient information leaflet which accompanies appointment letters for COVID-19 vaccination states: *People with bleeding disorders or people taking medication to thin the blood or reduce bleeding should consult their specialist for advice on vaccination.* NHS Grampian advise not to phone your GP.

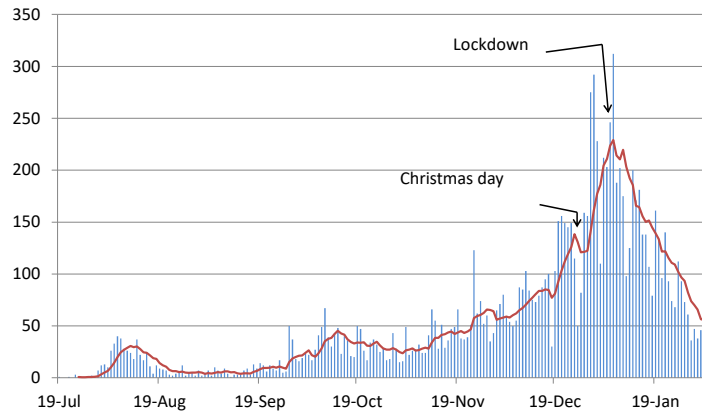
- Patients who are prescribed blood thinning medication including warfarin, aspirin, clopidogrel, rivaroxaban, edoxaban and apixiban should not be concerned about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and should attend their appointment to receive this important immunisation.
- There is no need to contact your general practice for advice regarding blood thinning medication prior to attending for COVID-19 immunisation.
- Vaccinators will ask a question related to this prior to administering an injection.
- Patients on blood thinning medication may bruise more readily, the vaccinator will simply apply pressure after immunisation to the injection site for a bit longer than average. Reassuringly, the needle the COVID-19 vaccine is given with is very small and causes minimal trauma.
- If the individual receives medication/ treatment to reduce bleeding, for example treatment for haemophilia, intramuscular vaccination can be scheduled shortly after such medication/ treatment is administered. Please call the number on your letter to rearrange your appointment if required.

Grampian data The local figures for today and the 7 day rolling positivity rate are shown below. If you click [here](#) you can visit the Public Health Scotland website, which includes neighbourhood figures for all local authority areas in Scotland.



The rise and fall of COVID-19 The graph below shows the number of COVID-19 cases reported to the contact tracing system since the Aberdeen City outbreak in August.

Daily covid-19 cases and 7 day rolling average



The ‘bump’ in October was associated with the return of university students, and from early November there was an inexorable rise in numbers, with large spikes following the Christmas and New Year periods. The graph demonstrates convincingly the effect of complete lockdown starting on 5 January. In December there was an average of 2.5 contacts of each case, whilst in January this had fallen to 1.3 contacts per case. So, the Grampian population are to be congratulated for their adherence to the lockdown restrictions, but case numbers are still higher just now that they were in March, August and October, and so continued vigilance and adherence to the restrictions remain vitally important.

PPE 3 week look ahead As you can see below, stocks of all items remain good for the weeks ahead.

PPE Summary - Predicted Equipment Remaining at the end of each week

| | FFP3 Mask | type IIR mask | Covid Gowns | Theatre Gowns | Visors + Goggles | Aprons | Gloves |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|---------|-----------|
| February 1, 2021 | 141,371 | 364,172 | 12,308 | 13,255 | 103,219 | 922,343 | 1,849,416 |
| February 8, 2021 | 140,956 | 362,519 | 12,290 | 13,883 | 103,838 | 922,343 | 1,849,416 |
| February 15, 20.. | 140,542 | 360,865 | 12,273 | 14,511 | 104,457 | 922,343 | 1,849,416 |
| February 22, 20.. | 140,127 | 359,212 | 12,255 | 15,139 | 105,076 | 922,343 | 1,849,416 |

■ Stock < 0
 ■ Stock <= 2 Days
 ■ Stock <= 5 Days
 ■ Stock > 5 Days

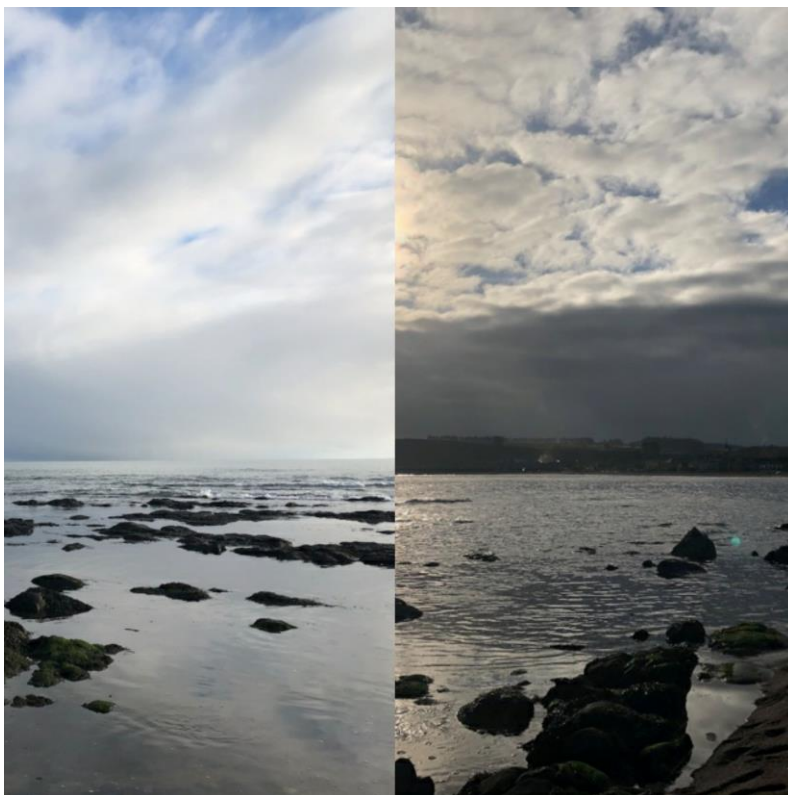
Orange Award This week’s winner (or winners) of the Orange Award have yet to receive their prize, so we aren’t going to spoil the surprise in this brief. The awards team receive between 20 and 35 nominations every week and they always report a surge in activity on Fridays when we mention it in the brief (we’re pleased you’re paying attention!). As well as a winner being selected each week, every nominee receives a certificate of recognition – and we’ve seen lots of these being shared on social media. It takes just minutes to nominate an individual or team going above and beyond in health & social care. You can either click [here](#) to fill in the online form, or drop an email with all the details to gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot

Thought for the day Keeping it short and simple today, to make room for the gallery. Many of you take the time to get in touch to share your thoughts, photos, and experiences to help inform this bit of the brief. You have been open and honest, often sharing very personal stories. It is a tremendous privilege to hear them and quite humbling to be so trusted. Thank you.

If you are working this weekend, please do stay safe. For those of you not at work, please take the time to rest.

And finally...The Gallery

Siân Roughton (Lead Practice Educator) took these two photos at Stonehaven beach at the same time, looking in different directions. As Siân says “It shows from one angle it is dark with only a little sunshine, and the potential threat of bad weather coming. When you look in the other direction there is blue sky, brightness and hope of better weather. These two photos I think show where we all are now with COVID in Grampian, on a path with two possible outcomes, we are all hoping for the brighter picture, with COVID numbers falling and vaccination numbers increasing, but the threat of a storm (the virus) is still close by. Luckily the storm did not come that day and hopefully that is a good omen for all of us.”



Paul Fraser (Radiotherapy Physics Technician, ARI) was able to take this shot while walking along the River Dee riverbed on Sunday morning because the water was so low.



And Nathan Ware (Employability & Apprenticeship Officer, Dr Gray's Hospital) captured this beautiful image while out for a walk:



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.