

Thursday 28 March 2024

'Flu/COVID-19 vaccination for health & social care staff – end of 23/24 programme There are just a few days left for health & social care staff to get their 'flu and/or COVID-19 vaccinations. The winter 23/24 programme will **close** on 31 March. Health & social care staff are **not** eligible for immunisation in the Spring programme, which will shortly get underway. If you work in health or social care, you can drop into any vaccination centre in Grampian to discuss what they are eligible for and get immunised. Details of clinics and opening hours are available here: [Centres | Vax Grampian \(grampianvax.com\)](#). For more information on the Spring COVID-19 vaccination programme, visit NHS Inform: [Spring coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine | NHS inform](#)

FAO clinical staff - change in design of Ambu Spur II Self-inflating Bag The pressure limit for the relief valve on the Ambu self-inflating bag, found on emergency trollies across the organisation, has been reduced from 60cm to 40cm H₂O to comply with a new ISO standard. This may lead to difficulties in ventilating some patients (particularly those with a high/very high BMI) in a clinical emergency. It is possible to disable the pressure limiting valve, if required, and the resus training team have provided photos to show how. [You can view these here](#) (intranet link, networked devices only). If you have any queries or concerns, please contact gram.resustraining@nhs.scot

Data security - handover notes Printed handover notes must **never** be taken off-site. They must be disposed of in red confidential waste bags at the end of each shift. You are responsible for your own copy of handover notes, their security whilst you have them, and for their proper disposal. There is a real potential for harm to our patients if handover notes are misplaced and recovered by third parties.

Wildlife and site/public safety Our sites can attract a variety of wildlife, including seagulls. Under **no** circumstances should you leave food out for them. Seagulls can be aggressive during their breeding season, posing a risk to all site users. Airborne fungal spores from bird droppings can enter general healthcare environments increasing the risk of various infections which birds can pass onto humans, such as Pasteurella infections, and Chlamydia psittaci, which can cause psittacosis (a respiratory infection). Please remember to dispose of all rubbish if taking breaks outside; we have invested in bins designed to prevent birds pulling rubbish back out of them. If you are experiencing a pest control issue, of any kind, please report [this via the Facilities & Estates online helpdesk](#).

Closure of Mental Health after COVID Hospitalisation (MACH) service The MACH service, set up in 2021 to support patients who were admitted to hospital with COVID-19, will close this week. Designed to be a short-term service, the team have all enjoyed working together enormously. Please note this is a separate service to the Adult Long Covid service which has been in this brief recently.

ICYMI - HEPMA clock change downtime A reminder HEPMA/PSC & CDD will be unavailable between 0.45-2.15am on Sunday morning. This is due to clock change server updates. Further information is available here (intranet link, networked devices only): [NHS Grampian News - HEPMA/PSC and CDD Spring Clock Change \(31/03/24\)... \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#)

Medwatch newsletter The March edition of the Medwatch newsletter is available to read here: [Vol 5. Issue 1: March 2024 \(cloud.microsoft\)](#)

Future care planning - Share your views Future care planning is about thinking and planning ahead. It helps people at any age or stage of life to have conversations about their goals with the team caring for them when there are changes in their life, health or care needs. We want a future care planning conversation to happen for everyone admitted to hospital. This is to understand what matters most to individuals especially if their condition worsens. It will also help plan for their future care following an acute admission. This discussion is recorded in something known as a Treatment Escalation Plan.

You, your family, and friends, are also our patients, and we want to hear your views. Have you experienced this type of conversation? This might have been about your own care or the care of a loved one. Or is this something you are interested in and would be keen to be part of the discussion? We are planning a focus group to help shape this work and we are keen to have you involved. This will be held in ARI in May. If you are interested in taking part, to help shape this work on future care planning, [please complete this form](#) or alternatively email gram.realisticmedicine@nhs.scot.

Tune of the day Today is Maundy Thursday, the start of the Easter weekend, a hugely significant period for Christians. Ella Fitzgerald's version of [The Old Rugged Cross](#) is dedicated to all those marking the occasion.

Squeezing in a second tune, as Helen Rowbottom, part of the MACH team (see item above) has asked for [Closing Time](#) by Semisonic (EP)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot