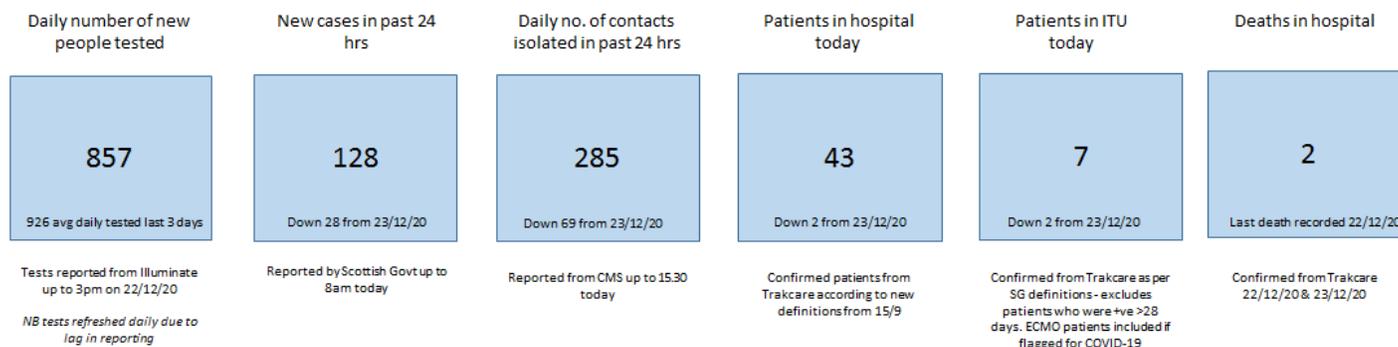


Here is the brief for Thursday 24 December 2020.

Message from the Chief Executive Please click [here](#) to watch a short Christmas message from Caroline Hiscox.

Grampian COVID-19 Assistance Hub The hub was set up in March as part of the joint local response to the pandemic. It remains open to provide emergency help and support to anyone in Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire or Moray affected by the virus. The hub will remain open throughout the Christmas period. If you – or someone you know – needs help, you can call them on 0808 196 3384 (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm). Alternatively, click [here](#) for the assistance request form. You can find out more about the help on offer at the hub website – gcah.org.uk. Please share these details with colleagues, family, and friends.

Grampian figures Here are the figures for today. Click [here](#) to see all the data published by Public Health Scotland, which includes neighbourhood figures for all local authority areas in Scotland. **Please note there will be no updates to the PHS daily dashboard between 25-28 December.**



As you will have seen this week, the numbers of people getting tested have been consistently high. It is unclear what is driving such a significant increase in testing, but it is vital to remember what the test can – and cannot – do. The test is used to detect the presence of COVID-19 in a nasal and throat swab. It cannot tell you if you are incubating the disease and a ‘not detected’ result should not be taken as a cue to relax. The virus is circulating widely in all our communities and it remains highly infectious.

As ever, if you are working in health & social care and develop symptoms (no matter how mild they are), you should isolate at home and book a test. The staff testing programme will be open throughout the Christmas and New Year period; use [this form](#) to request a test.

COVID-19 vaccine – ARI clinic reminder If you have requested a clinic appointment at ARI and subsequently received your immunisation from a Peer Vaccinator, please email gram.aricovidstaffvacprog@nhs.scot to let the team know you no longer require a clinic appointment.

Letter from Chief Executive, NHS Scotland As highlighted in yesterday’s brief, Caroline Lamb has been appointed as the new Chief Executive of NHS Scotland. Along with current interim Chief Executive, John Connaghan, she has written to all NHS Scotland staff. The letter is attached to today’s daily brief email.

The importance of clinical research Also attached to today's daily brief email is a letter from the Chief Medical Officer, Dr Gregor Smith, thanking all NHS boards for their contribution to, and support of, clinical research. Since the first cases were identified in Scotland in March, more than 100 studies into COVID-19 have been delivered, with an amazing 23,000 participants. A number of these studies are taking place in Grampian, as noted by Dr Smith in his letter, and we wanted to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the researchers, clinicians, support staff, and – crucially – the public volunteers who make this happen.

PPE 3 week look ahead All stocks look healthy for the coming weeks:

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

	FFP3 Mask	type IIR mask	Covid Gowns	Theatre Gowns	Visors + Goggles	Aprons	Gloves
December 21, 20..	179,189	367,893	2,015	13,591	70,866	815,320	1,944,722
December 28, 20..	178,928	364,969	4,015	14,397	70,885	815,320	1,944,722
January 4, 2021	178,666	362,045	7,415	15,203	70,903	815,320	1,944,722
January 11, 2021	178,404	359,122	7,130	16,009	70,921	815,320	1,944,722

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

Orange Award Ted Reid (Portering), Jennifer Yeomans (Procurement), and Rob Holt (Fleet & Supply chain) picked up the most recent Orange Award on behalf of their wider teams – congratulations to all of them. If you work with somebody (or somebodies) who deserve praise and recognition for the work they do, why not nominate them? Nothing could be simpler; just fill in [this form](#) or send an email to gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot

The Flying Pigs If you follow NHS Grampian on Facebook, you will have seen the videos we have been posting in recent days from Doric comedy troupe The Flying Pigs. They've done a superb job in bringing humour to the key messages we all need to remember. If you haven't seen them, give yourself a treat and click [here](#) to watch them on YouTube.

Thought for the day For nearly 9 months our little group has pulled together a daily brief. Some of these (like everything all of us have done this year) have hit the mark, and some have not. We have encouraged reflection, self-care and passed on the thanks of others for your efforts. Most of all we have done our utmost to share knowledge. As a final thought before Christmas, in these difficult times, one of the things that is supposed to help is gratitude. Not the 'stick your head in the sand' gratitude of 'someone else has it worse', because, frankly, this year has been pretty grim at points. Rather the gratitude of being exhausted, or scared, or grieving, and seeing someone (or yourself) being still able to help, care, laugh or share. The deep gratitude of seeing that which is astonishing at the hardest of times, or surprising ourselves. So, as a small (and we promise, rare) takeover, today we thought about who we would most like to say thank-you to, and we would encourage you to do the same. So, thank-you to: everyone who reads this brief, everyone who has taken the time to send in their feedback (the positive AND the negative), our colleagues, our families, and Every Single One of you who work in health and social care. Fa's like us?

To all of you, of all faiths and none, Merry Christmas and hopes for a brighter new year.

Items for the brief? If you have something you would like to be considered for inclusion in this brief, please send this to gram.communications@nhs.scot. Messages should be clearly marked as 'Daily brief – for consideration'. Please be aware that space is limited, and items are prioritised based on subject matter and relevance to all staff groups.