

Here is the brief for Tuesday 5 October 2021.

**Staffing opportunity - vaccination programme** Are you a trained vaccinator, with the capacity to offer additional hours to the COVID-19 booster/flu vaccination programme? Shifts are available in both staff clinics and the public vaccination centres, particularly in the coming weeks over the school holidays. If you would be interested, please contact [gram.nmahpbankrecruitment@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.nmahpbankrecruitment@nhs.scot) for further information.

**Changes to the NHS Scotland Pension Scheme April 2022** As some of you may already be aware, all current pension scheme members will move to a reformed scheme, from 1 April 2022. We expect much more information to come out about this in the coming weeks, but we wanted to update you on what we know now:

- The move to a career average pension means that members will accrue their pension from 1 April 2022 onwards at a typically higher annual rate based on their average salary.
- Scheme members who joined the scheme prior to 1 April 2015 will have a choice as to whether their pensionable service from April 2015 (the original date of transfer for most staff to a career average pension arrangement) to 31 March 2022 will be regarded as being in their pre-April 2015 scheme arrangement i.e. 1995 or 2008 scheme. The SPPA communications will cover this in more detail.

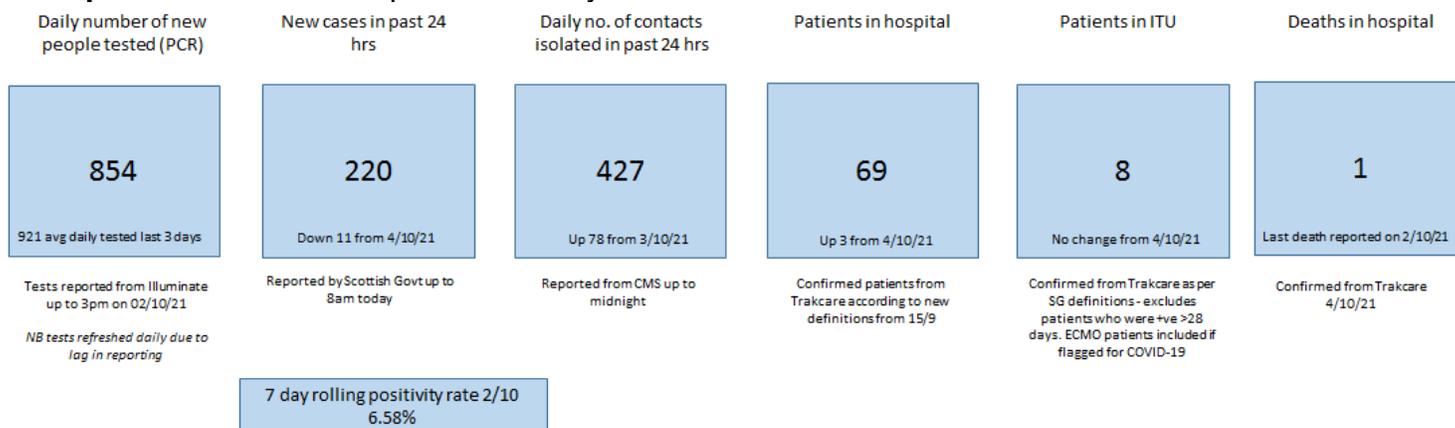
We are aware that some scheme members are concerned that they will have to retire by 31 March 2022 as their benefits in their old scheme will be lost. **This is untrue.** SPPA have published a FAQ document which may be helpful – please visit their website <https://pensions.gov.scot/2015-remedy-faqs/nhs-scheme-faqs>. Until we have a full briefing from SPPA, please keep calm and carry on stay in post!

**Pressure on health & social care – BBC filming** A huge thank you to the teams at ARI and Aberdeenshire HSCP for their support of filming by Reporting Scotland last week. The pressure across services is significant at the moment and we are grateful to them for making the time to take part. If you missed these features, we are pleased to say they are available to watch via YouTube, as follows:

[BBC in ARI \(first broadcast Wednesday 29 September\)](#)

[BBC in Aberdeenshire \(first broadcast Thursday 30 September\)](#)

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



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

**SAS Patient Transport booking** Thank you to the eagle-eyed among you who spotted incorrect contact details in the information circulated last week. We apologise for any inconvenience; an updated guide and the booking form is attached to the email used to send out this brief.

**Health and Safety Courses - Moving and Handling Update for Medical Staff** The Health & Safety Manual Handling team are continuing to reintroduce face-to-face learning, previously suspended in light of the pandemic. The final course to be reintroduced to our training programme is medical staff updates and these will commence in 2022.

Any medical staff who may assist with patient handling should attend a 3hr update sessions every 2 years along with completing the Moving and Handling eLearning [Module A]. Sessions will be either AM (9-12pm) or PM (1-4PM) and can be booked via [Turas](#). These sessions will be monthly in ARI and every quarter in Moray.

**Calling all N&M Supervisors and Assessors – we need you help!** The Practice Education Team are undertaking an evaluation on behalf of the organisation regarding the Practice Supervisor and Practice Assessor roles that were introduced as part of the Future Nurse & Midwife Programme last September.

To help with this, please complete the Microsoft Form questionnaire below as fully as possible, the evaluation should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. All responses will be anonymised for the final reporting; however, the collated results will be shared with your team and in future will be used to inform the NMC educational audit process which is completed for each approved practice learning experience every 2 years. The Health Board collated results will be used to inform other internal and external enhancement reviews. [You can access the form here](#). The closing date for responses is 22 October.

**Quality & Safety in Healthcare Event - reminder** This event will take place, via Teams, on Tuesday 26 October, between 9am and 12.30pm. Four CPD Hours will be awarded on attendance of the full event. [All the details you need for registering are available on the Quality Improvement Hub's intranet pages](#) – remember this link will only be accessible on networked devices. The theme this year is “Be Civil, Be Safe”, and as part of the event a poster presentation will be available to view online.

**Are the kids alright? PHS survey extended** We previously shared information on a survey from Public Health Scotland, open to parents/carers of children aged 0-11, aimed at understanding how the pandemic has affected their families' behaviours, play and learning. This survey window has been extended to Thursday 14 October. [The survey can be accessed here](#) – thank you if you have already taken the opportunity to share your views.

**Management Development Digital Programme** The 2-day Middle Managers Course was redesigned for delivery in accordance with the new ways of working in the response to COVID-19. The programme aims to ensure that managers are supported in the workplace and have the opportunity to continue developing their skills in managing effective teams. The course is delivered over 9 weeks using a Teams Group with channels assigned to each topic where sessions are scheduled, resources shared, and updates posted. For further information and to book a place please check the course page in Turas Learn via this link: [Management Development Digital Programme](#) Any queries please send to [gram.learningdevelopment@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.learningdevelopment@nhs.scot)

**Book Blether in Libraries Week** [This week is Libraries Week](#), celebrating the nation's much-loved libraries and the central role that libraries play in their community as a driver for inclusion, sustainability, social mobility, and community cohesion. NHS Grampian Libraries are here to support all health and social care staff with their library needs. Get in touch to see how they can help you! The team also run regular Book Blether events on Teams, the next one takes place this Thursday (7 October) at 1pm. Whether you want to talk about you've read recently or get some inspiration for your next read, all health & social care staff from across the Grampian area are invited to join in the chat. Find out more [here](#). If you would like to come along or have any more queries please contact [cornhill.library@nhs.scot](mailto:cornhill.library@nhs.scot) for more information.

**Tune of the day** Lesley Meldrum has requested today's tune, as follows: "As I have just had my appointment at the staff vaccination clinic, I would like to dedicate [RockSteady by Aretha Franklin](#) to all our vaccinators for being brilliant and being an incredible rock during such stormy seas". A sentiment we are happy to get behind!

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)