

Here is the brief for Friday 7 May 2021.

Moray update There are two key updates to provide, regarding the ongoing situation in Moray:

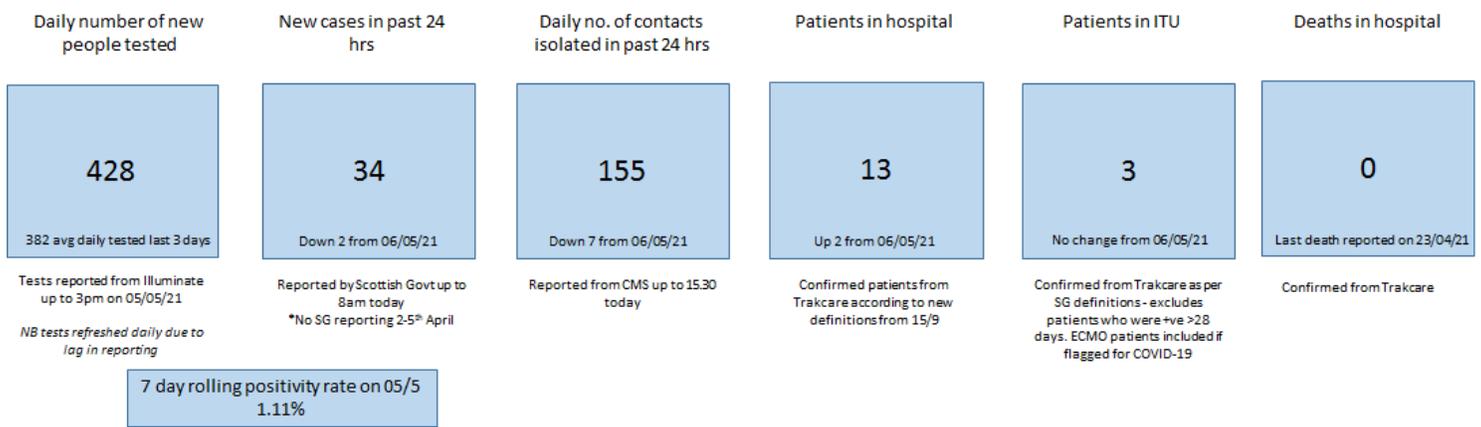
- Delivery of COVID-19 vaccination to adults over 18 years in Moray is to be accelerated. Additional COVID-19 Pfizer vaccination stock and the concerning, uncontrolled, sustained community transmission of COVID-19 has made this decision straightforward. All those aged 18-39 years in Moray who have not yet received their COVID-19 vaccination as part of the earlier priority cohort groups will be appointed from tomorrow (8 May). During the first few days, we will phone to offer appointments before moving to letter appointments from the middle of next week.

The Fiona Elcock Vaccination Centre will have increased opening hours between 8am and 10pm with additional vaccination channels throughout the day. This increased activity will not affect the existing appointments at this centre or the delivery of second doses and vaccination of those 40-49 years across Grampian. All those aged 40 years and over should already have an appointment or will receive one soon. Working together to reduce the spread in Moray will reduce the risk of further spread to Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen. The slightly accelerated delivery in Moray will not delay the programme or negatively impact on the work planned throughout Grampian.

- A Mobile Testing Unit is now in operation at Elgin Academy. The unit is initially targeting pupils and teachers during school hours and will be used for members of the wider public during the weekend. We continue to ask the general public in Moray with any symptoms of illness, not just those of COVID-19 – including headaches, diarrhoea, sore throat, runny nose - to isolate and book a test immediately. People without symptoms are continuing to be asked to take up asymptomatic testing. Health & social care staff should continue to use the staff testing programme, available [here](#).

COVID-19 vaccination programme – new JCVI guidance The Joint Committee on Vaccination & Immunisation has updated its guidance on the use of the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine and now advise a preference for adults aged 30 to 39 (without underlying health conditions) to receive an alternative to the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine – where available and only if this does not cause substantial delays in being vaccinated. The JCVI has made clear that the new advice for this age group is based on the current low prevalence of the virus nationally and the availability of alternatives to Oxford/AstraZeneca. If the situation changes the advice is that vaccination of adults aged 30-39 years with any of the UK authorised vaccines is always better than no vaccination, except where there are specific contraindications. The full JCVI statement can be read [here](#).

Grampian data The local figures for today and the 7-day rolling positivity rate are shown below. As a reminder, this rate is arrived at by dividing the number of positive tests in the past 7 days by the number of tests carried out in the past 7 days. Repeat tests are included in both categories, whereas the figures we show here only record new tests. If you are interested in seeing what is happening in your area, this information is published daily by Public Health Scotland. All you need to do is click [here](#) and select the appropriate local authority area.



International travel The UK Government is expected to make an announcement about the so-called 'green list' for international travel imminently. Please be aware this guidance applies to England **only**. The Scottish Government guidance continues to state that you must not travel into or out of Scotland from outside the UK without an essential reason.

International Day of the Midwife/International Nurses Day foodbank collection As previously highlighted in this brief, we are encouraging everyone working in health & social care to support their local foodbank to mark these two important events. Where possible, you should organise a collection locally and get this directly to your nearest foodbank. [The Trussell Trust](#) website lists foodbanks in Aberdeen City/Aberdeenshire. Teams in Moray should contact [Moray Food Plus](#). Please check with foodbanks which items they are most in need of first. Two collection points are available in the Orange Zone and Pink Zone cafes in ARI if required – please note donations can only be made during café opening hours.

If you nurse are working in NHSG acute we would love to hear from you about how the pandemic has impacted upon you personally and professionally Researchers within the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedic Practice have been awarded funding by Robert Gordon University to explore the experiences of nurses working in NHS Grampian acute sector during the COVID-19 pandemic. This study aims to explore how working during the pandemic has impacted on these nurses professionally and personally, their experiences of trying to support students and new graduates during this time and their future career intentions. Participation will involve completing a short questionnaire with the option of taking part in an interview via Microsoft Teams with a RGU researcher, which we expect to last up to 60 minutes. Those who participate in the questionnaire will be entered into a prize draw for a £50 Amazon voucher and those who participate in the interview will be given a £20 for their time.

Now recruitment for the study is well underway and we're starting to collect data it's becoming clear **we need as many nurses as possible to complete the questionnaire**, but we particularly need to speak to **staff nurses and nurses who mentor students** in an interview. **This is an appeal for all nurses who work in the acute sector to please complete our questionnaire. It takes less than 5 minutes to complete, and you will be entered into a prize draw for a £50 amazon voucher and for staff nurses and those who mentor students to contact Aileen about an interview.** If you are interested in finding out more please email Dr Aileen Grant, Senior Research Fellow: a.grant17@rgu.ac.uk for further information.

PPE 3 week look 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
April 26, 2021	226,890	143,274	6,100	5,992	51,640	1,046,545	1,703,256
May 3, 2021	228,518	137,112	6,025	6,479	52,058	1,046,545	1,703,256
May 10, 2021	230,146	130,951	5,951	6,966	52,475	1,046,545	1,703,256
May 17, 2021	231,775	124,789	5,876	7,454	52,893	1,046,545	1,703,256

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

Orange Award Huge congratulations to Stephen Main, part of the COVID-19 vaccination team in Aberdeenshire and recent winner of the Orange Award. The award recognises any teams or individuals working in health & social care and going above and beyond to provide great service. If you want to nominate a colleague or team for an award, just click [here](#) to complete the online form or email their details to gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot

Thought for the day – stay safe this weekend The rapidly unfolding situation in Moray shows us that COVID-19 is not just a problem 'somewhere else'. We also well remember the impact the Aberdeen cluster had last August. Every Friday we wish those of you working a safe weekend. We're going one step further today and encouraging everyone to stay safe. Stick to the guidelines, please. Every rule we bend, every time we say 'it's got really cold, shall we just nip inside?', we open the door to the virus a little wider. You're exhausted. We're exhausted. We all desperately want a return to a more normal life and an end to the cycle of lockdowns and easing. This is in our control. We have the power, through the decisions we make, to keep making progress.

Tune of the day A big thank you to Eleanor Binnie-McLeod (Nurse Manager, Endoscopy, Dermatology and Rheumatology) for today's suggestion – [Little Changes by Frank Turner](#). Eleanor says: "I feel it relates and captures so well where we are today with COVID but in an upbeat and fun way. It was written before COVID and it was one of the tunes I listened to at the beginning to bring me joy and remind me it will all be Ok."

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.