

Here is the brief for Wednesday 2 February 2022.

Message from Adam Coldwells, deputy Chief Executive: "Storms Malik and Corrie have caused significant disruption for many of us and I know there are still some of you who have yet to have power restored. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has carried on working in spite of these challenges. Your efforts are recognised, and we are extremely grateful for them."

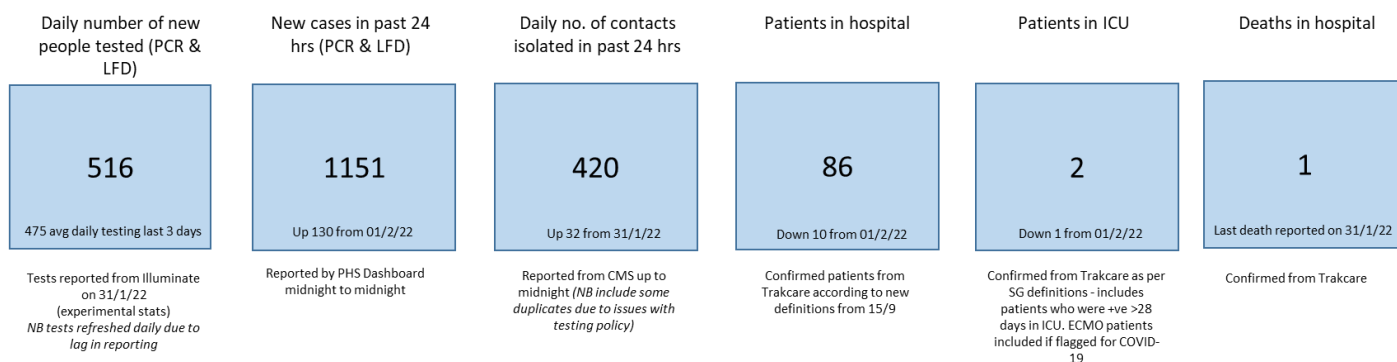
COVID-19 vaccination and immunosuppression Following the article we shared yesterday, looking at the effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccination, some of you got in touch asking if we could particularly highlight the position of those who are severely immunosuppressed. We are happy to do this, as not all of you reading may be aware of their different situation. People who are severely immunosuppressed, due either to an underlying health condition or as a result of treatment they are currently undergoing, may not mount a full immune response to the COVID-19 vaccines. Following consideration of the evidence available at the time, the JCVI recommended this group be offered a third primary dose. This decision was published in September 2021 [and is available to read in full here](#) if you are interested. Since then, people in this group have also been offered a booster dose, as part of the national booster campaign. We have permission to share this feedback from a staff member – something for all of us to bear in mind:

"I am in that group, and it can be difficult when colleagues/other staff members tell me 'I shouldn't be worried, and the vaccine is great, look the statistics, they say it's less severe' to try and explain that these relate to the majority but not so much for me. Indeed, explaining I have had to have 3 primary vaccinations and a booster can be met with – that's not what the brief/news has been saying."

Ask Caroline If you haven't had a chance to watch the latest video with Caroline Hiscox answering your questions, [don't worry, it is still available to view](#). If you're short on time, there are links to the specific questions asked in the description box, allowing you to skip to the section most relevant to you.

We're looking for your questions for the next edition, and we're really keen to focus on workforce concerns. Pensions, deployment, policies and procedures – what do you want to know about? Send your questions in to gram.communications@nhs.scot and let us know if you'd prefer to be anonymous or not.

Grampian data The local update for today is shown below. A complete national report, including the option to view cases at a neighbourhood level, [is available via the Public Health Scotland daily dashboard](#).



7 day rolling positivity rate 31/1
17.34%

Staff Marquee – Foresterhill Health Campus As you will be aware, a marquee was situated close to the ARI Rotunda to provide additional rest space for staff on Foresterhill Health Campus. Usage of this facility had declined significantly; it was then taken out of use after the marquee was damaged during Storm Arwen. The Staff Welfare Group has considered the future of this particular facility and has concluded it has served its original purpose and will be removed. The ARI Board Room has been approved as a suitable alternative and work is ongoing to get it ready for use.

The ARCHIE Child Bereavement Service Formally Grampian Child Bereavement Network, The ARCHIE Child Bereavement Service have been working alongside NHS Grampian with their new project funded by Children in Need for over a year now.

Carolyn Crews and Jane Watson are available to support families with children up to the age of 18, who have someone they love going through palliative care or have died in hospital. They can attend the hospital and ward with resources like story books, workbooks and information books for parents/carers. This support can be carried forward into the family home if required. The referral process is quick and easy. First recognise a family who you feel need support and gain their permission for their details to be passed onto ACBS. Then, contact Carolyn and Jane on 01224 550144 or by email on gcbn@archie.org with the following information:

- Name and relation of the person who has died or is dying
- Name and age of children
- Cause of death
- Contact details for the parent/carer

The service operates Mon-Fri, 10am – 4pm. If you have already used this service, your feedback is invaluable and [can be given by completing this form](#).

Alcohol Liaison Nurse Service – survey closes soon As highlighted previously, funding has been secured to transform the current Alcohol Liaison Nurse service into a Drug & Alcohol Care Team, allowing the service to support patients experiencing drug misuse issues. As part of this, the team are seeking views from staff who have referred patients to the Alcohol Liaison Nurse. Your input here will help us to shape this service and help us to make meaningful improvements to patient-centred care. To share your views, [please click on this link to complete a short questionnaire](#) – it should take just a few minutes. The survey will close on 10 February.

We Care Wellbeing Wednesday

- **Newsletter** We are pleased to share our February We Care Newsletter, [available to view online](#) and also attached to the email used to send out this brief. Why not share this round your teams or print a copy to add to your staff room to keep everyone up to date on We Care events, information and news? If you would like to subscribe to our newsletter or provide us with some feedback, please email us at gram.wecare@nhs.scot
- **Financial Advice** Do you have any financial worries or concerns? There are a range of hints, tips, and advice available at <https://www.myhealthyworkplace.net>

Tune of the day Shona Alexander requests today's tune, dedicated to the team who worked at Carden Medical Practice. With the closure of the practice this week, they are going their separate ways and Shona is keen to pay tribute to their hard work and dedication over the years and has requested [Survivor by Destiny's Child](#).

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