

Here is the brief for Thursday 28 October 2021.

**Chief Executive message** [Professor Caroline Hiscox has recorded a video message for staff](#). In the update, Caroline talks about the current pressure in the system and the planning for the coming months. You can get in touch with Caroline at any time by emailing [gram.grampianchiefexecutive@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.grampianchiefexecutive@nhs.scot)

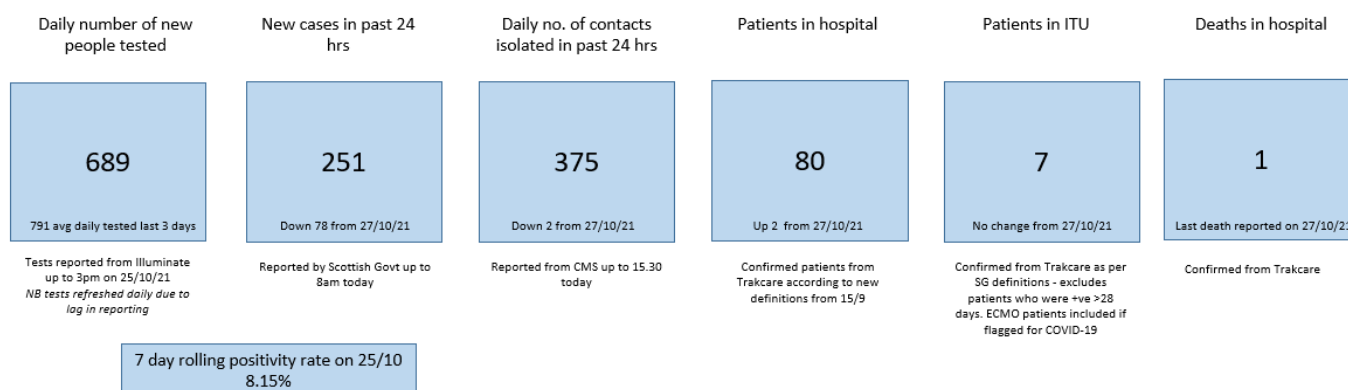
**COP26** The UN climate conference, COP26, will get underway in Glasgow this weekend. Climate change is an issue which affects all of us. Over the duration of the conference, we will be sharing more information on what NHS Grampian is doing to be as sustainable as possible.

There has been a great deal of discussion on the potential impact of rallies and protests linked to the event. Most of this activity will likely be concentrated in and around Glasgow, however disruption in other parts of Scotland is possible. In the event of any local disruption, we will aim to get information out to staff as quickly as possible, via the Global email system. You may also wish to follow the social media accounts run by Traffic Scotland, which provide up to date information on road closures, and public transport providers like First Bus, Stagecoach, and Scotrail, as appropriate. The hashtag #ABZTravel is also useful if you are a Twitter user.

It is possible that you will become aware of local COP26 related disruption before the organisation does. While we are particularly keen to understand if protests or rallies are preventing staff getting to or from work, any information on disruption related to COP26 (e.g. blocked roads) is useful. You should pass details of any disruption – linked to COP26 – to [gram.boardcontrolcentre@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.boardcontrolcentre@nhs.scot)

**Autumn/Winter staff vaccinations** As of today nearly 18,500 health & social care staff appointments have been booked in Grampian, 13,796 flu immunisations have been administered, and 13,658 COVID-19 boosters have been administered. Thank you to all of you for booking your appointments so promptly and to the staff teams working on the vaccination programme across Moray, Aberdeenshire, and Aberdeen City.

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



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

**PPE donning & doffing training – New Dates!** Training on the correct way to don and doff PPE has been scheduled until the end of the year. The currently available dates are below, all sessions start at 11am and you can book your place by emailing [gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot)

Tuesday 26 October/ Wednesday 10 November/ Tuesday 23 November/ Wednesday 1 December/Tuesday 14 December/Wednesday 22 December.

These sessions are supplementary to (not a replacement for) mandatory training on Turas. Turas training comes in two parts, 1) Droplet precautions and 2) AGP precautions and both should be completed annually.

**200th TAVI procedure completed at ARI** Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) was first offered at ARI in 2019 – now cardiologists have completed their 200<sup>th</sup> procedure.

Dr Ciprian Dospinescu, consultant cardiologist and clinical lead for TAVI, said: “The pandemic has had an impact on the TAVI service, however the availability of a less invasive alternative to carry out aortic valve replacement has allowed us to continue to treat patients despite the difficulties faced by the health service. TAVI can be done without general anaesthetic which means we are able to do the procedures without requiring an anaesthetic team. The vast majority of patients also do not require intensive care, so we are saving bed days in ITU; the procedures are quicker; and patients go home sooner – they tend to spend a day or two in hospital and approximately two-thirds are discharged home after two nights.

“Ultimately having the TAVI service here makes a very good treatment more accessible to our patients. Previously elderly patients had to travel to the central belt to get this procedure – some of them declined treatment because of that. The accessibility is now much improved, the service is now established with local expertise and an excellent team, which is greatly beneficial to our North of Scotland patients and worth celebrating.”

**MSc opportunity at Robert Gordon University** There is a demand for high quality strategic service planning skills across the health and social care systems. Robert Gordon University are working in partnership with NHS Grampian to fill this skills gap through the [MSc Strategic Service Planning and Delivery in Health and Social Care](#) course. This online Master’s degree, starting in January 2022, will give you the skills to reimagine creative and sustainable solutions to influence our healthcare services. You can save 50% on course fees if you’re an NHS employee (subject to availability). Find out more [www.rgu.ac.uk/sspd](http://www.rgu.ac.uk/sspd)

**Tune for the day** On this day in 1972, Stevie Wonder released his fifteenth studio album, Talking Book. It’s an album chock full of classics, but we’ve plumped for [Superstition](#) as today’s tune of the day. Enjoy!

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)