## coronavirus VID-19Brief

Here is the brief for Friday 22 January 2021.

**COVID-19 vaccine programme – public vaccination centres** As you will already be aware, P&J Live at TECA has been secured as a mass vaccination centre for Aberdeen. Today we have also confirmed clinics will operate in Elgin, Forres, Buckie, Dufftown, Keith, Peterhead, Fraserburgh, Macduff, Stonehaven, Inverurie, Banchory, Alford/Huntly (these clinics will rotate) and Ellon. Appointments are now being scheduled for our over 75 population and letters will soon begin to arrive. A huge amount of work has gone into getting to this point and credit must go to the operational team working on this.

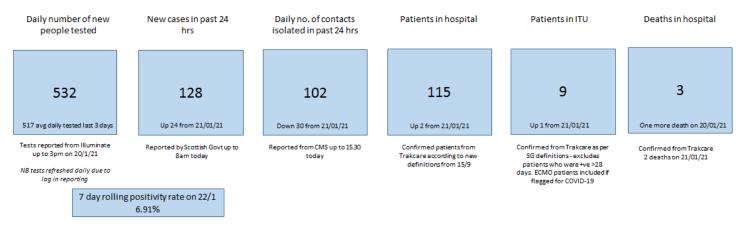
We are going to focus on one centre in particular though – a former retail unit in Elgin is to become the Fiona Elcock Vaccination Centre. Fiona was a highly valued and much-loved member of the immunisation team in Moray, who died suddenly in December. With the permission of her family, the Elgin centre has been named in her honour and in tribute to what she achieved during her NHS career. In a joint statement, her children Kerry and Kieran said: Our family are honoured and delighted that the vaccination centre will be named after our beloved Mum, Fiona. She was extremely passionate about her nursing career spanning over 30 years. She formed strong relationships along the way and touched the lives of so many people. We are proud that her legacy of caring for others is able to continue through the Fiona Elcock Vaccination Centre."

**Vaccination is a public health intervention** All vaccination programmes are intended to reduce the incidence of death and/or harmful events in a population rather than to provide a 100% guarantee of protection to an individual. For example, the MMR vaccination provides 97% likelihood of protection, vitally important for the population although 3% may still be susceptible. The same is true for COVID-19 vaccination programmes. So, in thinking about the debate about the 12-week delay before offering the second dose the consideration should be a population-based assessment.

Imagine a population consisting of 5,000 50-year-olds and 5,000 80-year-olds. Unvaccinated during a wave of COVID-19 would result in 1 death in the 50-year-olds and 25 deaths in the 80-year-olds. Now imagine that you have 10,000 doses of vaccine available and that the first dose gives 90% protection, and the second dose increases protection to 95%. If you give a single dose to your entire population the chances of death in the 50-year-olds is 0.1 (so not very likely) and in the 80 year olds is 2.5 - total deaths 2.6.

If you give two doses 21 days apart there is only enough vaccine for half the population, so divided equally across the age groups you would be vaccinating 2,500 in each age group. In this case the deaths in the 50-year-olds would be 0.525 and in the 80-year-olds 13.125. So, the question as to whether you should go for around 3 deaths or around 13 deaths seems fairly easy to answer.

**Grampian data** The local figures for today and the 7 day rolling positivity rate are shown below. The positivity rate is calculated 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 you below only record new tests.



If you click <u>here</u> you can visit the Public Health Scotland website, which includes neighbourhood figures for all local authority areas in Scotland.

## PPE 3 week look ahead Stocks continue to be good across all key items.



**Orange Award** This week we send our warmest congratulations to our superb Breast Care Nurses at ARI - Shona Davidson, Fiona Geddes, Sheila Ingram, Linda Lett, Louisa Pirie and Kate Shaw – winners of the Orange Award. If there is somebody (or somebodies) you have been meaning to nominate for an Orange Award? It's very straightforward – either click <u>here</u> to fill in the online form or email <u>gram.nmahporangeawards@nhs.scot</u> with some information on what they are doing to go above and beyond.

**Thought for the day** We are pleased to report the concept of Thought for the Day is catching on across Grampian! Dr Claire Nickford takes up the story:

"Here at Turriff Medical Practice we have started our own thought for the day, writing up our favourite epigrams on a white board in our socially distanced coffee room. I wanted to share with you our latest from my colleague and friend Dr Fiona Jackson. Unlike me, who prefers the ancient schools of philosophy, she leans towards the modern and contemporary, though I think it has something of the Homeric about it none the less":

## Today I will live in the moment, unless the moment is unpleasant, in which case I will eat a cookie (Cookie Monster)

We hope you are able to have a restful weekend. As ever, to our friends and colleagues on shift, we say thank you and stay safe.

**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 <u>gram.communications@nhs.scot</u>. Please also use that email address if you have items for consideration for future briefs.