

Daily Brief...



Wednesday 16 April 2025

Disclosure Scotland Act – action required From the start of April, new legislation came into effect, making it mandatory for employees to become members of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme if they are in a regulated role. Disclosure Scotland have advised 'regulated roles' now includes roles with **any** form of patient contact, whether face-to-face, written, or verbal, as part of normal duties. These roles did not previously qualify for PVG as they normally fell under a Standard Disclosure. They will also have to be working in a named location i.e. a hospital, nursery, an educational institution, day care premises, hospice, hostel, residential care setting or secure accommodation for children.

As an employer, NHS Grampian can be prosecuted if we employ someone in a regulated role who is not a Member of the PVG Scheme. **This will cease any Risk Assessments being undertaken prior to an employee commencing in post.**

Managers should continue to identify members of their team who fall into this new category and take the appropriate action. Disclosure Scotland have produced this tool to assist: [Check if a role needs PVG scheme membership - mygov.scot](#)

If you have been identified as someone in a regulated role and you need to become a member of the PVG scheme, either you or your manager should have completed a form to collect the required information. Please look out for an e-mail containing a link to complete your part of the PVG application. The link is valid for 14 days **only** so you must take prompt action.

[There is an FAQ document on the intranet](#) (networked devices only); if you have any further queries, please e-mail gram.disclosureact@nhs.scot.

Research reveals impact of Huntington's Disease in north of Scotland Research by the University of Aberdeen, supported by our Clinical Genetics team, has revealed the true impact of Huntington's Disease across Grampian, Highland, Orkney, Shetland, and the Western Isles. It suggests the rate of the degenerative brain condition could be up to five times higher here, compared with the global rate. It is a genetic disease and the research highlights that, for each diagnosed individual, they may have 2.2 relatives carrying the gene. There's more information available here: [True number of people living with Huntington's disease gene in Northern Scotland revealed | News | The University of Aberdeen](#)

Staff Equalities Network – digital session With apologies, yesterday's item didn't include information on how you can attend today's session on digital healthcare and equality, taking place between 2-3pm. To get the Teams link, please email gram.staffequalities@nhs.scot

Chronic pain toolkit Did you know 38% of the adult population of Scotland are managing a chronic pain condition? To support all of us working in healthcare to become a more compassionate, knowledgeable, and pain informed workforce, a Turas learning hub has been set up. Whatever your role, you'll find appropriate information and support. Check it out here (log-in required): [Chronic pain learning toolkit | Turas | Learn](#)

Menopause & menstrual health policy The national Menopause & Menstrual Health Workplace Policy aims to:

- Support those in the workplace experiencing menopause and menstrual health symptoms
- Create an environment where staff can discuss their experience and get the support they need at work
- Improve menopause and menstrual health awareness across the whole workplace

[The full guidance can be accessed online here](#). Documents to support implementation are available on the National Wellbeing Hub here: [Menstrual Health and Menopause Guidance - National Wellbeing Hub](#)

Wellbeing, Culture, and Development Wednesday

- **Managers Development Forum** This month's forum for current or aspiring managers takes place on Teams on Wednesday 23 April, 9.30-10.30am. We'll share more about the new corporate direction of iMatter and how this will affect you and your team. [Join the forum on Teams here](#).
- **Leading for the Future - applications close on 25 April** This popular national senior leadership programme (for bands 8A+or equivalent) will run from September 2025 to June 2026 over 10 full-day virtual sessions. [Download your application here](#) (networked devices only).
- **Guided Journaling** helps uncover self-knowledge and inner resources. These 30-minute sessions allow you to pause, observe, and understand your surroundings and inner self. Although in a group setting, your experience is personal with muted microphones and optional cameras. Join us on Monday afternoons or Thursday mornings to connect with yourself. No prior journaling experience needed. Booking is via Turas (log-in required): [Guided Journaling Session | Turas | Learn](#)

To contact WCD, please contact gram.wcd@nhs.scot and don't forget to check out our revised website here: [We Care \(wellbeing support for health & social care staff\)](#)

Tune of the day We are midway through Holy Week, commemorating the events leading up to the crucifixion, and then resurrection, of Jesus Christ. For Christians of all traditions this is an incredibly significant time; Judy Collins' beautiful version of [Amazing Grace](#) is dedicated to those marking the occasion (EP)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via gram.communications@nhs.scot