

Tuesday 22 September 2026

All-staff briefing - Programme for Government Thank you to everyone who attended yesterday's briefing, which focused on proposed NHS reform. As usual, the session was recorded; a link to this and the slides shared [is available via this link](#).

DG Health and Social Care and Chief Executive of NHS Scotland appointed Christine McLaughlin CBE has been confirmed as Director General (DG) Health and Social Care and Chief Executive of NHS Scotland. Christine had been fulfilling the role on an interim basis and now takes up the substantive appointment. She previously served as Chief Operating Officer & Deputy Chief Executive, NHS Scotland and has held several Director roles in the Scottish Government spanning Population Health, the Covid-19 response, Finance and Digital.

Everyone Matters pulse survey – launching Friday There's just days to go until we launch our first 'pulse' survey, focusing on the staff experience part of our 2026 iMatter results. This 2-3 minute, 5 question survey will act as a regular check-in, to see how we are doing and to act on your feedback.

Like iMatter, this survey will be delivered straight to your inbox from a company called Webropol. Paper copies will be available for those who need. The survey window will run from 25 September to 18 October; please take the time to have your say. We want to do everything we can to maintain and improve your experience at work and your feedback is a vital part of that.

Ward stock and appropriate use of patient provisions The new 'Ward Pantry Stock and Appropriate Use of Patient Provisions' protocol [is available via this link](#). It sets out clear expectations for the ordering, storage, and use of patient-funded pantry items. This is to ensure provisions remain available for patient care while reducing avoidable waste and supporting best use of our resources. Patient provisions are for patient use and should not be used for staff consumption, meetings, or hospitality. Please familiarise yourself with the protocol and local arrangements. Please share this widely in ward teams.

Sharps-related adverse events analysis We typically see around 20-30 sharps related adverse events per month. Next month, the Corporate Health & Safety Team will be carrying out an analysis into sharps related adverse events across the organisation. After reporting a sharps adverse event on Datix, a member of the team may contact you to gather further information about the sharp and the adverse event. The aim of this is to help reduce the number of sharps related adverse events; your co-operation is appreciated.

ARI pharmacy – stocks of cool packs We are severely depleted in our cool packs which go in the cool boxes to maintain the cold chain for medication supply. We would like to ask all areas to check their fridges/freezers to see if there are any pharmacy cool packs and ask them to urgently return them to the Pharmacy Store, ARI. Having limited number of cool packs disrupts our capability to supply medications in a timely manner.

Occupational Health Awareness Week Taking place this week, this campaign highlights the vital role Occupational Health plays in supporting staff health, wellbeing, and attendance at work. Led by the Society of Occupational Medicine (SOM), this year's campaign aims to increase awareness of the value of occupational health and encourages staff to seek occupational health support early when health concerns may be affecting work. Occupational Health professionals are experts in work and health, helping to create healthier, safer and more inclusive workplaces. Find out more about the campaign and [access resources by following this link](#).

Could better outcomes start before treatment begins? Cancer prehabilitation is helping us explore an important question: how can we better support people to prepare for treatment and recovery? Join us tomorrow (Wednesday) between 1-2.45pm to hear how NHS teams, charities, and leisure partners are working together to support people before treatment in Grampian. We'll explore what's being learned and allow space for you to consider how these approaches could be applied in your own area of work. [You can register to join this online event via this link](#).

AHP monthly journal club Join your fellow AHPs on the last Tuesday of each month to read and discuss relevant papers, share insights, and build a supportive research active community. The club meets on Teams, between 12.30-1.15pm. No need to book, just [follow this joining link](#). Meeting dates and links to the articles to be discussed are below:

- **Tuesday 29 September:** Introduction to qualitative methodologies: what types of questions does qualitative research answer? When is qualitative research used?
- **Tuesday 27 October:** [The value of allied health professional research engagement on healthcare performance: a systematic review - PMC](#)
- **Tuesday 24 November:** [Interprofessional supervision among allied health professionals: a systematic scoping review](#)

NHS Grampian Charity The charity's Annual Review Event is taking place on Wednesday 7 October at the Suttie Centre, Foresterhill, from 2-4.30pm. All staff are invited to attend the event, which will provide an overview of the charity's work from the past year, followed by the chance to speak to other staff who have received charity funding. The event will be of most benefit to staff who are interested in learning more about the charity's work and how to apply for funding. If you would like to attend, please contact gram.charities@nhs.scot by Thursday 1 October to register your interest. Please note, numbers are strictly limited due to venue capacity.

Tune of the day Our tune today goes out to Emily Matthew in the Aberdeenshire North CTAC team. It's her last day at work before she gets married to the lovely Andrew on Saturday. The team are delighted for them both and have requested Bruno Mars and [Marry You](#) (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.dailybrief@nhs.scot